

# THE GATEWAY

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## Edmonton visit to help Beslan kids heal: EPS

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA  
News Writer

Twenty-five Beslan children, whose first day of school turned into a horrific nightmare when Chechen militants held their school hostage, are being offered the chance to come to Canada and experience life in Edmonton.

The three-day nightmare, which began on Wednesday, 1 September and ended with over 330 school children, teachers and adults dead, prompted an international wave of sympathy. Inspector Dan Jones of the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) was so disturbed by the tragedy he approached the Russian-Canadian Association of Alberta, asking, "What can we do?"

"People here at EPS were thinking, 'Well, what is it that we can do to help even just a few of these kids—help them to heal?'" Dave Zukivsky, who is currently filling in for Jones, said.

PLEASE SEE BESLAN • PAGE 2



ALEXISABLAZE? No, it's Alexisablaze, headlining a Monday show at Red's.

MATT MEYER

## Arts councilor receives human rights complaint

CAITLIN CRAWSHAW  
News Editor

Song lyrics about sexual assault posted on an SU councilor's blog led to the filing of a U of A human rights complaint Monday night, the resignation of the councilor at noon the following day, and a withdrawal of his resignation hours later.

Undergraduate arts student Megan Johnston filed a human rights complaint accusing arts councilor Adam Knisely of sexual harassment under University of Alberta policy.

The poem's lyrics are a play on the Paul Simon song "Kodachrome," found by Knisely on another Internet site. The parody describes raping a woman by rendering her unconscious using Chloroform.

The lyrics are among other personal postings, including photos of a friend's koi pond and photos of a scantily-clad woman.

A link to the personal online journal was part of Knisely's profile on the SU webboard.

Johnston, Associate Director of the Environmental Coordination Office of Students (ECOS) and a member of the Women's Centre Collective, argued in the complaint that the poem constitutes discrimination.

She is pursuing the complaint through SU harassment policy, and is demanding that Knisely be removed from council.

"The poem constitutes discrimination in that it condones the sexual assault of women, and specifically the drugging of women and the experience of having sex with women's unconscious bodies," she wrote.

Johnston said that she is being discriminated against, both as an SU employee and as an arts student whom Knisely represents as arts councilor.

PLEASE SEE KNISLEY • PAGE 4

## Nasal rangers sniff out locations for livestock operations

MEAGHAN DIETZ  
News Writer

A new crew of agents is calling on farms these days. They're not tax collectors or insurance agents, but nasal rangers—a group of highly-trained individuals who meticulously sniff the air to determine whether unpleasant odours are a concern for neighbours.

Currently, the nasal rangers, a group working through the University of Alberta, are trying to determine a set of odour standards for all livestock operations in Alberta.

The goal is to determine an acceptable proximity of the operations to their residential neighbours, to avoid odour nuisances.

The project is a joint effort between Alberta Agriculture and the U of A. The Alberta Livestock Industry Fund, an organization working toward environmentally and socially responsible livestock management, is also a major contributor to the project.

Two Alberta Agriculture employees, project leader Juan Segura and U of A professor John Feddes, the principle investigator, command a team of volunteers who sniff the air on their free time.

"The reason the project is in the news is that with increases to intensive livestock operations, one of the first complaints of neighbours in the

area is that the livestock operation stinks," said Kelly Lund, a volunteer with the project and a Masters of science student at the U of A.

When it comes to approving these livestock facilities, Alberta Agriculture follows the Agricultural Operations Practices Act (AOPA), which facilitates grievances related to odour, noise, and dust, among other things, filed by neighbours of farmers.

**"The reason the project is in the news is that with increases to intensive livestock operations, one of the first complaints of neighbours in the area is that the livestock operation stinks."**

KELLY LUND,  
NASAL RANGER

Segura is trying to come up with a new standard for AOPA based on minimal distance separation (MDS): the smallest distance required between the facility and a neighbour for odour not to be a problem. The research collected by the nasal rangers and Segura's

own number crunching provides him with MDS.

To become a nasal ranger, one must go through a training process from St Croix Sensory, a sensory testing and training company in Minnesota. The company has developed a course and handbook that teaches students about the sense of smell and how to detect the subtlest of odours.

The company sent a group up to Edmonton to train the first panel of personnel in 2001. In fact, it was St Croix Sensory that coined the term "nasal rangers."

Possible candidates for the nasal ranger program must first try their nose at the olfactometer, a device used to detect the concentration of an odour, explained Segura. If the candidate is among the top five or six noses, when it comes to odour detection, they are asked to become a nasal ranger.

PLEASE SEE RANGERS • PAGE 2

### Correction!

In volume XCIV, issue 9 of the Gateway, published on 5 October 2004, it was erroneously reported that there were to be two speakers at the Holocaust lecture series.

In fact there is only one speaker, Dr Christopher Browning. He is a Frank Porter Graham Scholar.



MARY MILITR

IBET YOUR NOSE ISN'T THIS AVERAGE That's all you need to be a nasal ranger.

## Inside

News 1-5  
Opinion 6-10  
Feature 12-13  
Sports 14-17  
A&E 18-21  
Comics 22-23  
Classifieds 24



12 Refugees of Zimbabwe share their chilling stories of life under a dictator, and Archbishop Plus Ncube of Zimbabwe relates the country's grisly situation. Check out the feature.

## From the archives

The teacher evaluation system moved through the U of A administration committee structure. The SU vice-president (academic) said the evaluations would be constructive for professors. The evaluation system was adapted from that of Harvard. "We want to improve the quality of teaching on campus to make this one of the pre-eminent universities for teaching," said the U of A associate vice-president (academic).

1992

## Give thanks, y'all

We know that you all want to get your bi-weekly fix of the Gateway, but we need to give thanks this upcoming weekend, so there won't be a paper next Tuesday. Instead, there will be turkey, stuffing, and awkward family bonding. See you in a week!



18 Darryl Stardust? Ziggy Michel? Whichever silly name you prefer, Darryl Michel loves Bowie—he loves him so much he released a tribute album. Michel talks about it in A&E.

## THE GATEWAY

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Unisn Powerlook 1000 flatbed scanner, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan opti 8000 film scanner. Adobe Design is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Futura, Helvetica, and Avenir. The Gateway's games of choice are Battle for Westroth and Burned 2.

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## The average nose will know, says researcher

RANGERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Segura said candidates between the ages of 18 and 50 are most eligible, but candidates don't need sensitive noses; noses in the normal range work fine. Segura added that candidates with colds are disqualified, at least until the illness has passed.

"For nasal ranging you just have to be able to memorize a certain smell and be able to detect it. It may be relative, but you're all trained to the same scale," said Lund.

"The nasal rangers are also trained to go to different types of production sites like, composting facilities; the composting plant in Edmonton, they have nasal rangers. Also, the oil refineries have people going around."

However, the difference between these rangers and the agricultural type is that chemical odours, like those at the oil refineries, can be detected by machine, whereas animal odour is more complex, beyond the capability of a machine.

With respect to the budget, Segura said he may be looking for students or people from the public to become nasal rangers if the project continues next year. For now, he's carrying on the program with paid agricultural

engineers or volunteers like Lund.

"We're highly paid for our other jobs, and all of a sudden we're out in a field for four hours smelling manure," Lund said.

**"The nasal rangers are also trained to go to different types of production sites, like composting facilities; the composting plant in Edmonton, they have nasal rangers. Also, the oil refineries have people going around."**

KELLY LUND,  
NASAL RANGER

Though it may not sound glamorous, there isn't a computer or device to be found that can gather this information.

"The human nose is the best machine we have for now," said Segura.

## Police struggle to find funding for Beslan trip

BESLAN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

EPS decided on opening a "Beslan Children's Fund" so that money could be raised to give 25 Beslan school children along with five adults who were involved in the crisis an opportunity to visit Edmonton. It's hoped the trip will provide a vacation from the painful memories of the school siege.

The planned trip involves numerous activities for the children, making their trip as enjoyable as possible.

"We are planning to find all of show them Edmonton, and we also want to take them for day trips to Drumheller, Calgary, Lake Louise and Banff," said Marina Bazos from the Russian-Canadian Association of Alberta.

However, the Beslan fund hasn't generated enough money to cover the transportation and accommodation costs for the 30 travelers.

"We're finding it difficult even to buy plane tickets for the children," Bazos explained.

Bazos, working tirelessly to make this dream come true, hopes people will donate more, as the entire project is funded through volunteer donations.

"I'm just going for everything everywhere," Bazos said.

Despite its involvement, the EPS isn't

acting as a benefactor, and it's up to the Russian-Canadian Association of Alberta to fundraise.

"It's not the EPS that is looking for the funds; we're just operating as a vehicle to collect those funds," Zukivsky clarified.

**"We're finding it difficult even to buy plane tickets for the children."**

MARINA BAZOS,  
RUSSIAN CANADIAN  
ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA

But the EPS explained Edmontonians can make donations at community police stations or send donations to the Emergency Services Credit Union or to the Russian-Canadian Association of Alberta under the notation "Beslan Children's Fund."

Bazos is optimistic that people will have a desire to help.

"Maybe everyone who is attached to this story can go to a police station and make a donation," Bazos said.

"We're just asking society to help."

## STREETERS

The municipal election is fast approaching. There's only twelve days left until election day.

What do you think is the biggest issue in the municipal election and why?



Devin Forbb  
Chemistry II



Brandi Karpyszyn  
Science I



Sebastian Toth  
Education IV



Jason Richardson  
Physics IV

Whether or not I think Churchill Square is necessary, which is what all the candidates are talking about, whether or not it's a waste of money, because there is a lot of debate whether Edmonton should have kind of a downtown "nice place" — like the square in Calgary and squares in other major cities.

Definitely the roads. They need better construction.

Personally, I think the biggest issue is the fact that there are so many god-damn street signs all over the place that are polluting the vision of Edmonton. They're supposed to be 20 metres apart, but they're not. And so you have these people who are politically governing the city doing illegal things.

The biggest issue—maybe—postsecondary education? I think they should address it a bit because we're getting a whole bunch of money from the federal and provincial governments turn. Just send some money my way, to the postsecondary education, 'cause we all need it, eh, we're all poor so, I don't know, do something for us 'cause we're the future.

Compiled and photographed by Vivian Leung and James Storie

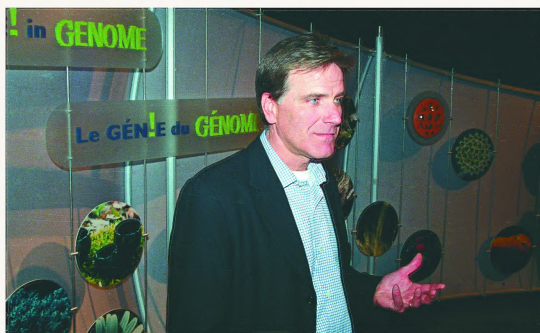
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LET'S TALK GMOs Bob Burden explains the importance of GMOs in today's agricultural productions.

## Experts debate pros, cons of GMOs

A news feature delving into the genetically modified organisms debate

TAYBER VOYER  
News Writer

It is often said that people fear what they don't understand. So last Thursday at the Provincial Museum of Alberta, three panelists fought the public anxiety surrounding genetically modified organisms.

The entitled "GMOs: What are they and should I be concerned?" was part of the Provincial Museum's The GEEB! in Genome exhibition running from 28 July to 11 October 2004. It aims to educate the public on genomics: the study of genes and their functions.

The 30 September forum hosted three panelists speaking about genetically modified organisms (GMOs): a chemist, an agricultural consultant, and an organic farmer answered questions from the public. The two major concerns were about GMOs in food; whether they were safe and whether they need to be used.

GMOs are used in Canada for improving food production, like in the case of Bt corn, a corn crop genetically modified to produce a toxic protein that protects against insects and other diseases but doesn't affect humans, and Round Up Ready Canola, a type of canola modified to resist Round Up, a biodegradable herbicide. When a Round Up Ready Canola crop is sprayed, the crop will survive but all the other plants and weeds will die.

Dr Fenster, a professor of chemistry at McGill University, explained the crops are beneficial because they reduce the number of chemicals used in agricultural production.

"In the case of Bt corn, the gene that codes for the toxic protein Bt, which is also used by organic farmers, is transferred directly into the genes of the corn," Fenster said.

Instead of spraying the plants with the Bt protein or other pesticides, the protein is directly incorporated into the plant.

But Victor Chrapko, an organic farmer from Brosseau, Alberta and the president of the Alberta Chapter of the International Organic Crop Improvement Association, a non-profit organization providing research, education and certification to organic farmers, cited studies from Iowa University which found an increase in production cost and no reduction in the volume of pesticides when using GMOs.

However, according to Bob

Burden, an agriculture consultant for Sercon Evaluations and Consulting, a company that works with farmers to help them increase production and reduce costs, 90 per cent of the western Canadian seed market uses herbicide-resistant seed like Round Up Ready Canola.

Burden reported that when using GM technology the volume of chemicals may not decrease, but there was a change in the type of chemicals used that resulted in less "garbage" in the food and a better product.

"We are using the same volume of herbicide but the type has changed. When you use Round Up, the active ingredient, the dangerous part, the chemical, is reduced by about four to six times," he said.

"Do I think that some GMOs are safe?

Yes I do. But in my opinion, there is only one thing that will prove it, and that's the test of time."

VICTOR CHRAPKO,  
ORGANIC FARMER

Burden also supported Fenster's claim that GMO technology increases farm production. A study conducted over four years with 650 farms found that farmers could earn up to six dollars more per acre using GM technology, as well as reduce the number of trips they needed to take over their fields.

"When using GM technology, the number of trips that a farmer has to make over their field is reduced by over one. This doesn't seem like much, but when you're saving four to six litres of gasoline or diesel fuel per acre, and the average farm in Canada has 970 acres, then you're looking at the equivalent of driving about 50 000km a year," Burden said.

Burden and Fenster claimed that the change in the types of chemicals used in the production of our food increases the quality of the food and results in a much safer production process.

Chrapko, on the other hand, has seen the use of chemicals on farms over his decades of experience and he wasn't convinced. As an organic farmer, he believes it is safer to farm without the use of any herbicides

and pesticides because he believes there is a certain amount of uptake in the human body during digestion of these types of chemicals which may result in an increase in allergies and maybe even cancer.

Fenster also outlined some of the environmental risks associated with GMOs. There is the risk of contamination of non-target species, which occurs when there is interbreeding between a non-GMO and a GMO, resulting in a new uncontrolled plant. Other risks include stresses on the environment and the possibility that insects become resistant to the technology.

However, new technology has also allowed for trans-species modification in plants: taking genes from one organism and incorporating them into another, providing for extremely useful yet drastic results. "Golden rice," for example, uses gene-splicing technology to create a new form of rice that is more nutritious, Fenster explained.

"It is possible to take a gene which codes for the production of the protein carotene. That protein has the ability to extract iron from the soil and incorporate it into the rice. This provides iron to people who have a diet that is iron-deficient," he said.

GMOs that change the nature of plants, such as the addition of carotene, have not been approved for use in Canada; if they were, they would require special labeling because they change the actual characteristics of the plant. Labeling of GM food is not mandatory in Canada or the US, though Britain and France have already passed legislation requiring the labeling of GM products.

All three panelists urged the public to become educated about what goes into their food, since as consumers it is up to them to decide whether they want to buy GM products. They said consumers have the power to affect legislation for the labeling of GM foods, and hold the market power that will determine whether GMO products will sell and, ultimately, whether they are safe.

Chrapko, speaking with a gentle wisdom from years of living close to the land, was firm in his skepticism about the technology.

"Do I think that some GMOs are safe? Yes I do. But in my opinion, there is only one thing that will prove it, and that's the test of time," he said.

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## Accused councilor questions complainant's motivations

KNISLEY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I kind of want to say it's a joke in poor taste, but at the same time, it's way more powerful than a joke in poor taste—it just shows complete disrespect for women," she said, adding that because Knisley linked his site to the SU webboard where councilors discuss political issues, his blog was publicly available.

"By putting it on the SU webpage, you're not only showing what you think, but you're misrepresenting the Students' Union," Johnston said.

Knisley told the Gateway that he did not intend his blog to be read by students, but by friends.

At noon on Tuesday, Knisley e-mailed a letter of resignation to SU officials and the Gateway, writing that "nothing but contrition is appropriate for this situation." Further down in the letter, he wrote that his original intent was "to expose the degree to which sexism still exists in our society, and help create the awareness necessary to combat it."

He explained later that he had heard of the complaint from the Gateway, and resigned before seeing Johnston's formal complaint, which he read around 4pm on Tuesday.

"I had a vague idea of what this was going to be about, and I knew what the SU executives were thinking about. And I knew what their decision was. Instead of letting it come to what their decision would be, I decided to resign," he said.

"But now, when I found out what this is really about, it doesn't have any-

thing to do with sexism and sexual assault or anything like that; there's no way I could let this slide."

According to Knisley, the complaint was not motivated by the nature of the posting, which he removed early Tuesday morning, but by political motives.

**"I think this is a combination of a serious overreaction, a serious grasping at straws to find some way to publicly discredit me."**

ADAM KNISLEY,  
SU ARTS COUNCILOR

During the summer, when SU department heads were defending their budgets, Knisley raised concerns about the budget of ECOS. As a result, he brought forward a motion to hold a referendum to let students decide whether they wished to support ECOS. Another councilor brought forward a motion to dissolve ECOS without a referendum, he said.

"I voted against that motion, but my name was still attached to it, unfortunately. And so the perception was that I was trying to get rid of ECOS, which is not what I was trying to do at all," said Knisley.

"I think this combination of a seri-

ous overreaction, a serious grasping at straws to find some way to publicly discredit me," he added.

ECOS director Alison Lennie denied that the group is a part of the complaint.

"ECOS is not involved. I am personally not involved. And ECOS itself, as an organization, and the employees of it, are not involved. Meagan Johnston may have made a comment, but she made it as a student," said Lennie.

"ECOS is not doing this to spite Adam Knisley or anything."

SU President Jordan Blatz would not comment on the specifics of the complaint, but said that the SU takes sexual harassment very seriously and is holding an emergency Council meeting Thursday evening to assess the situation.

In his view, the complaint is a reminder to councilors that as political figures, they are in the public eye.

"When you're in a position like this you have to realize that coming along with that is a fish bowl aspect to it, where people, whether you know it or not, are watching and looking at all of your actions and criticizing them and scrutinizing them," said Blatz.

Blatz added that the situation is, to his understanding, unprecedented in SU history. And because Knisley's resignation was undated, policy states that the resignation is effective 30 days from the time of filing.

Knisley told the Gateway that he is unsure of his strategy for tonight's council meeting.

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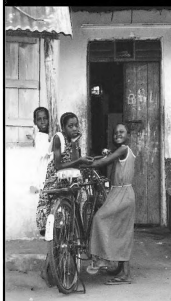
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## Have you ever wanted to go abroad?



## Are you interested in Health Education?

The Students' International Health Association (SIHA) is recruiting new members for its international and local projects. Each year, during the summer, a group of students travels to Guyana and Tanzania to work on health projects related to HIV/AIDS and malaria, respectively. Locally, SIHA partners with HIV Edmonton to educate youth about HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis C.

**Application forms are available at SUB 0-40B and are due on Tuesday, October 12th, 2004**

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# Ontario postsecondary system lacking funds: former premier

RIKA SZKIELY  
Ontario Bureau Chief

TORONTO (CUP)—Ontario needs to look at signs showing its higher education system is in jeopardy and engage in intense debate about them, says Bob Rae, head of the province's postsecondary review.

The review panel released a discussion paper on 1 October outlining the major signals of crisis at colleges and universities, including a funding gridlock, a stagnant student-aid program and a need for more spaces for graduate students.

Rae, a former Ontario premier, said the signs are not immediately clear to the public.

"They don't jar the public like hospital waiting lists or homelessness. We don't see the visible signs as clearly. But they are critical signs of jeopardy because they mean we are not the place of opportunity and not the place of excellence we should be," he said.

Perhaps the biggest issue to be addressed is funding. Ontario lags behind every other province in Canada in per capita funding.

"The system today is under-funded and needs more focused attention and resources," said Rae. "It won't necessarily be easy, but the decline of higher education in Ontario is not an acceptable option for me, and I don't believe it's an acceptable option for the government."

Another necessity is student-aid reform, according to Rae.

"I think we need to listen to those student voices who are telling us that

there is a serious problem with student aid," said Rae, pointing out that while tuition went up 130 per cent over the past decade, the amount of money provided by the province has not changed.

"At the same time, let me stress, I think it's absolutely critical that we listen to those voices from the institutions who point out to us that the system is not sufficiently funded and is not going to be competitive with the rest of the world over the next decade."

**"The system today is under-funded and needs more focused attention and resources."**

BOB RAE,  
FORMER ONTARIO PREMIER

Panel member Leslie Church, a law student at the University of Toronto, says the need for increased spaces in graduate and professional schools will be significant as the double cohort moves through the undergraduate system and baby boomer professors begin to retire.

"I think it's a major issue. Ontario isn't producing the number of graduate students that it should be to meet the increasing number of retiring professors," said Church.

"I haven't reached any final conclusions, and those of you who are look-

ing through the tea leaves for final conclusions will not find it," said Rae, adding the purpose of the dialogue is to make sure the panel gives the government the best possible advice.

Both student and faculty groups were impressed with the breadth of the issues raised.

"I'm pleased by the remarks he made today; he certainly hit all the important notes for our organization, talking about affordability, accessibility, the need to expand the system and the professoriate and the need to expand graduate education," said Michael Doucet, president of the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations.

The Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance has also met several times with the panel.

"I think that it's what we were expecting," said Alison Forbes, president of the student group.

"It was really nice to see that the options have been left wide open, so students are really going to get a chance to step up and take advantage of the opportunity to get involved with shaping the future of their higher education system."

Forbes said the student group wants the province to continue to regulate tuition in order to encourage and ensure accessibility.

She asserted the results of the review, once completed, shouldn't be shelved.

"Right now, students are suffering the brunt of the degrading system, and we need to step back and really fix it and need to see large-scale sweeping changes."

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- **Worm Composting Session**  
(4-20 SUB, Thurs. Oct 14, 5-6 PM)
- **ECO House Open House**  
(11025 Saskatchewan Drive, Saturday Oct 16, 1-4 PM)

think global — act local — stay hopeful



## Teaching assistants moving to unionize at Memorial University

KATIE JACKSON  
The Muse

ST JOHN'S (CUP)—They're the lowest paid of their profession in Canada, they have no control over their working conditions and they have no organization to represent their concerns. Now, the teaching assistants at Memorial University of Newfoundland are trying to unionize.

The 90-day campaign culminates in a vote on Monday, 6 December. Organizers need the support of a majority at the ballot box to gain certification.

Job security, representation and collective bargaining are the main reasons Paul Schiralli-Earle, political science teaching assistant (TA), will vote to unionize.

While investigating who would represent him at TA, Schiralli-Earle was surprised to find there was no one. The next day, he went out and signed a union card.

If recognized, the teaching assistants' union aims to gain better wages and working conditions, and ensure all TAs are fairly treated by their supervisors.

"We hope to put in some safeguards," said Tracy Glynn, union vice-president.

"Right now, TAs don't have anything to protect them."

The overworking of TAs is one of the major issues that Glynn hopes will be resolved once they are unionized.

For some departments, hours worked are recorded on a timesheet. But, with other departments, TAs are paid a lump sum with no record kept of hours worked, and no compensation for extra hours worked by TAs preparing for a course.

TAs at Memorial have not had a wage increase since 1985. They get paid \$13.29 an hour and are the lowest paid in Canada.

**"We hope to put in some safeguards. Right now, TAs don't have anything to protect them."**

TRACY GLYNN,  
TA UNION VICE-PRESIDENT

"At some universities, they make as much as \$32 an hour; here you make \$13. That's quite a disparity," said Dave Shaw, the Atlantic regional organizer for the Public Service Alliance of Canada.

According to Shaw, undergrad TAs at the University only make \$6.50 an hour, while research assistants take home \$8.

The focus of the union drive is the graduate student population, but once the union gets certified, Shaw says steps could be made to incorporate other groups into the union as well.

International students are another

group that could benefit from unionization.

"International students can only work on campus, so they're in a kind of vulnerable position to be taken advantage of from their supervisors," said Glynn.

She says the union will make it possible for international students to be protected and make sure "that their rights are not violated in any way."

One of the most pertinent issues facing TAs is intellectual property and authorship. Many TAs do hours of research for professors, and it is possible for a professor to take that information, use it and never give TAs credit for any of the work they've done. For a TA, there's no accountability, and no way to take this to court.

"That's a big-ticket item for TAs," Shaw said.

Right now, there are no real guidelines for what TAs' responsibilities are. They can vary from department to department, and professor to professor.

TAs are not a part of Memorial's faculty union, which represents academic staff members at the bargaining table. A reason for a separate union is there could be conflict between a professor and a TA, making it difficult for both to be represented by the same union.

The faculty union supports any unionizing activity, according to Bill Schipper, its president.

If the vote to unionize fails, organizers will have to wait another 90 days before they may hold another vote.

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## Public figures should be careful about online publishing

ONLINE PUBLISHING HAS done wonders for the promotion and dissemination of ideas, be they egregiously stupid ideas or incredibly brilliant ones. Weblogs, or blogs—essentially online journals—allow wannabe writers to expound upon the various intricacies of life while occasionally providing insight into a variety of topics. Some of them are even funny.

But there is a sinister side to blogging, and it rears its ugly head whenever public individuals—be they government officials, working journalists, or even student councilors—blur the lines between their private and public thoughts. Specifically, one cannot expect the public at large to just accept intrinsically public statements as private on the basis that one's blog is a personal online journal. Sadly, although a judge, for example, can instruct a jury to disregard testimony, it becomes very difficult for Joe Internet to discern between so-called official public thoughts and ideas and private ones.

However, in spite of this rather simple fact, public citizens insist on maintaining blogs—some, rightly, anonymously; others, rightly or wrongly, not anonymously. One example of the right version of this is that of prominent *National Post* columnist Colby Cosh. Mr Cosh hosts his thoughts and even mirrors some of his column at [www.colbycosh.com](http://www.colbycosh.com). The reason this seems to be okay—that is, nothing scandalous has happened as a result of his hosting a public blog—is because Cosh is an opinion columnist. Whether or not routine Web surfers agree or disagree with him is irrelevant. Cosh is paid to express his opinion. A blog, in this case, won't destroy his credibility.

Imagine, however, if Prime Minister Paul Martin decided to start a blog, and in this blog he slammed the opposition, or even worse, the voting public. "But it's a public blog of private thoughts," he might argue. And he might be right. But you can bet your ass he'd be finished as Canada's 38th prime minister.

Although small-time politicians aren't as big-tick as the prime minister, and not as scrutinized, that doesn't mean they can think their accountability when it comes to posting on blogs. U of A student councilors, many of whom regularly keep blogs, would be well advised to reconsider hosting public blogs if their statements could not be interpreted as flying in the face of their mandates as councilors.

That's basically what it boils down to: not what is actually said, nor what is intended, but how the electorate views these comments. If your comments can be misinterpreted in any way, you could land yourself in trouble. Does this mean politicians and public figures should delete their blogs and forget about it? Certainly not, but it does mean that these people must be extra vigilant and painfully clear when making their statements. They must also realize that, no matter how many times they claim to be making private versus public comments, those comments, always, will be viewed as public. No amount of riders or clarifications will ever change that.

Caution is the watchword, and while it's awful to have to censor oneself, this is the life that public citizens knowingly enter into when they run for office or apply for jobs that thrust them into the public eye. And no amount of hilarity will prevent a questionable comment from potentially ruining one's career.

ADAM ROZENHART  
Editor-in-Chief

## To infinity and beyond

IT DIDN'T HAVE the entire world watching on television, but Monday saw a milestone in space travel that may turn out to rival Neil Armstrong's first steps on the moon in historical importance.

SpaceShipOne, a small private craft designed by Burt Rutan, flew into space and safely returned for the second time in five days, winning the coveted \$10 million X-Prize and signalling a new era in space travel. The area beyond the atmosphere will no longer be the sole domain of military personnel in multi-billion dollar behemoths. Space cruise anyone?

JAKE THROUGHTON  
Sports Editor

## LETTERS

### Ads are vital to our business cycle, Peppin

Never have I been so nauseous as after having read the repugnant display of so-called "journalism" portrayed in Tuesday's *Gateway* involving Tim Peppin's "researched" opinion on advertising on campus ("Advertising is doing more harm than we're willing to admit," 5 October).

An ill-advised or ill-researched opinion can be the journalistic equivalent of a mental handicap. Mr Peppin spoke out in opposition to advertising on campus, declaring that "advertisements influence only those too stupid to see through their transparent veils" and "all sources of human information and interest have been hijacked for the purposes of promoting consumption." Apparently, Mr Peppin could not be a business or economics student, otherwise he would understand the tremendous importance of advertising in maintaining the business cycle.

As someone who is well involved with the worlds of business, economics, and advertising, I, along with any economics, marketing, or business student, can tell you that advertising plays a huge part in the balance of our market, ultimately affecting our everyday lives. Advertising is geared towards many things, mainly promotion of certain products or services. This move is fundamental to the success of businesses, as it provides the primary profits required for its continual growth. A business without advertising is dead.

How else will you know about the latest MP3 players, zit cream, textbook service, or sale at your favourite store? The fact is unless everyone knows everyone else, and everyone tells everyone everything, you wouldn't.

My utter abhorrence to this "opinion" of Mr Peppin is not in support of advertising. I don't openly welcome the University to open its arms to under-designed and low quality advertising that gets pushed into my face every time I turn around. I would, however, support the introduction of professional and high quality advertising. I'm not a corporate whore, bought out by corporations to support their crass, tasteless ads. I don't disagree with the abolishment of low quality advertising.

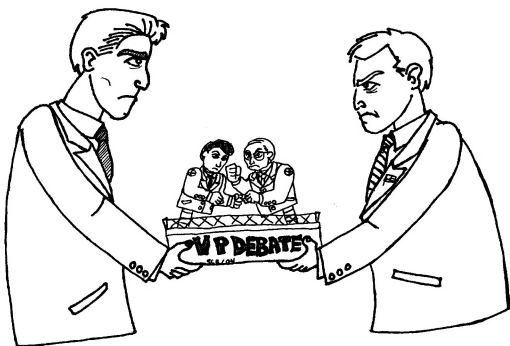
I do, however, understand the necessity of these advertisements in the cycle of daily business, and equally with the growth of economic foundations in regions such as ours. People are not stupid, Mr Peppin, nor are we oblivious to the directives of advertising.

I say leave the advertisers alone, and focus more on your business studies. You need it.

JORDAN ALLEN  
Edmonton, Alberta

### Word to the death of 'thug life'

This letter is in response to Navin Jagasia's "Deathknell for 'thug life'" article in the 5 October issue of the *Gateway*. I completely agree with Navin in that the rap music indus-



try needs to shape up. The industry has been on a decline since the 90s with the introduction of "gangsta-rap" and "body-shakin'" back in the early '80s. If you asked somebody what rapping was, they would have thought you were talking about wrapping a gift.

In the early days, rap music was part of an entire hip-hop culture that stood for peace and unity. The original dance of hip-hop was b-boying, or what the media likes to call breakdancing, not the booty-shaking you see in the music videos of today. The other elements of hip hop were DJing and graffiti, and they would all collaborate together, unlike the present, where only the rapper gets any attention. The labels portray modern hip hop as gangsters and womanizers, but in doing so, they've moved away from hip hop's true, positive roots. Hopefully, the declining record sales of the current generation of rappers will make the record labels realize that toothless rappers and flying bits are not what sells anyone.

DANIEL CHMIELEWSKI  
Business V

### First-year students need to grow up

I am writing to complain about the embarrassingly low level of maturity in my Stats 141 class. Being a third-year student in a first-year class gives students enough frustration in itself, but to be surrounded by a group of the most childlike "academic" peers seemingly possible renders said frustration unbearable.

I am unsure at what point it became admissible to taunt, mock, correct, and direct any other form of disrespect towards a professor. As a student at a university of "higher learning," I am appalled and embarrassed by my colleagues. Yes, the professor may be "fresh," inexperienced, young, quiet and so on, but absolutely none of these traits have an ounce to do with how much respect a person, especially one in education, is due.

We are all here to achieve an education and to become partners in

the professional world. I, however, am not excited at the prospect of any of these crass individuals sharing my workspace. This type of behaviour is considered unacceptable in any Canadian secondary school, where the consequences would probably include a meeting with the principal and a subsequent meeting with parents. The lack of this punitive aspect in our University is probably due to the assumed and expected higher responsibility and maturity of this group of students. But obviously that is an expectation some people have a hard time living up to. "Yelling," "You got it, pos" (as in posse?) to the professor when asked to read a chapter prior to his lecture on it (which is, by the way, a given) is a prime example of the kind of utter disrespect and immaturity that I and others endure every Tuesday and Thursday. To those people say: grow up, or go back to high school.

SARAH BEPUS  
Arts III

### Engineers are people too

Let me say this: I'm sick of the faculty stereotypes, implied or explicit, that certain people on campus seem to have.

The following might read like a bad personal ad, but some people seem to be ignorant of the people in my faculty—it's understandable what with our impenetrable multi-building super-fortress on the other side of campus—so here goes.

I've voted in the past two elections. History and politics fascinate me, and I try to learn as much as I can. I love talking with people about philosophy. Ich spreche ein bisschen Deutsch, und ich liebe Sprache! I love classical, punk, hip hop and I take in as many shows as I can. I like to dance, freestyle, and read for fun (gasp!) I love design and cooking, and do both. I like to get drunk, snowboard, and drive around in my car, though not necessarily in that order.

But guess what? Two of my passions are structures and physics. Say what? I can turn that into a great career that pays well and helps people? Word!

So before you take another swipe at my faculty and peers, or anyone else's for that matter, get to know the people around you better. Or we could just continue the juvenile faculty pissing contest I've been reading about in these pages all too frequently.

PAUL KNYTL  
Civil Engineering III

### Please, Rylee Nickel, I want some nickels

It's been a while since a misanthropic grin has passed my face—not since Tuesday, 21 September in fact, the last time I happened to spy Rylee Nickel's delightful comic strip, *Freddy & Georgy*, in the back pages of the *Gateway*.

Where oh where are those chipper, scot-faced, displaced British orphans?

No tired puns or hetero-normative frat-boy humour here, just well-drawn, anglophile "marvellous fun" that is so often lacking from the paper's daily funnies.

One can only hope that that omery Mr Patterson hasn't gotten to those golden lads, or that Freddy and Georgy haven't befallen some sort of tragic woodyard mishap. Heavens forfend!

Come back, Freddy & Georgy; we miss you ever so.

BONNIE YAMAGUCHI  
Science III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to [opinion@gatewayherald.ca](mailto:opinion@gatewayherald.ca).

The *Gateway* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words; letters longer than this will be mercilessly approached to suit our whims. Letters should also include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author; to be considered for publication. Cookies or something wouldn't hurt either.

# 86 million ways to waste your money



SCOTT  
LILWALL

I was thinking the other day, which is something that I do and on a couple of times a week. More specifically, this week I was thinking about what I could do with a little bit of money, like, say, \$86 million. One thing I could do is purchase 8 229 665 hot-pink beanbag chairs off of eBay. That way all of my guests would have a hideously ugly place to sit down.

Unfortunately for my house guests, I don't have \$86 million. On the other hand, the federal government has a lot more than this. Of course, they would never blow all that money on something as frivolous and stupid as beanbag chairs. No, with all this extra money lying about, the federal government will probably do something smart with it, like giving it back to the taxpayers in the form we would find most useful, right?

If you just answered "yes" to that question, then I'm afraid you're probably an idiot. One of the things that the government actually does with this extra cash is pay people to do research—research on things that the average Canadian doesn't give two shits about.

For example, last week Industry

Minister David Emerson announced a number of projects in universities across Canada receiving federal grants. Among the list of just under 1000 projects awarded grants, adding up to a total of—you guessed it—\$86 million, are some that the normal person would find a bit "dubious." Sorry, I mean "moronic."

**One of the things that the government actually does with this extra cash is pay people to do research—research on things that the average Canadian doesn't give two shits about.**

At a time when citizens are crying for an increase in federal funding for healthcare and university studies across the country are having trouble making ends meet, I can't see the reasoning that went in to deciding to shell out \$24 000 for a study on the "expressions of meaning in the Ontario cottage experience."

And whose great idea was to fork over the \$91 000 to study intimacy between sex workers and their "clients" in Ottawa? I may be crazy, but it seems to me that money might have gone to better use, perhaps arresting those clients and trying to help the sex

workers find professions that aren't, you know, illegal. Maybe I'm just old-fashioned.

Showing they aren't all that eastern biased, the feds have helped us out as well. Yeah, luckily for us, the U of A hasn't been neglected in the research sweepstakes: \$62 000 has been set aside for a study here entitled "Carnal Knowledge: Women, Desire and Seduction Narratives in Britain, 1740–1800."

Wow! Not a day goes by that I'm not sitting on the bus, wishing I knew more about the sex lives of Brits who lived 200 years ago. Seriously, does anyone care about this? I'm pretty sure that even those being studied don't care, seeing as how death has an adverse effect on sexual drive. That's a scientific fact—you can look it up.

It's not that I don't think the social sciences have a lot to offer us; I do. Hell, I'm getting a degree in a social science myself. All I'm trying to say is that if the feds are going to spend taxpayer money on studies, those studies should have a real, tangible benefit to the taxpayers, especially at a time when more important services such as healthcare are starving for funds. If given the choice between being healthy and understanding the meaning behind the cottage experience in Ontario, it's a no-brainer.

I could go on, but I've probably rambled on long enough. Besides, I have to finish up my grant application for a study on a "theory-based, hot-pink-beanbag-chair-centered restorative-napping program."

## Avoiding advertising is your responsibility



TREVOR  
PANAS

Advertising, my dear helpless and captive audience, is, as the French say, "the shits." It litters our radio programs, infests the evening news, clutters the streets with discarded flyers, and has even gone so far as to infest each once-sacred family institution as Hollywood movies and Snow music videos. It permeates and uglifies every inch of our free-market society, and the methods employed in the dissemination of this unholy corporate progeny have become increasingly overt and invasive.

However, with that said, I must disagree with people who sympathize with the persons responsible for the defamation of Zoom Media bathroom ads and similar anti-advertisement actions.

In fact, I would go so far as to state that for any individual of reasonable intellect, advertising has several advantages.

Advertising, be it on public transit, on television, or in our campus washrooms, is little more than a collection of images designed to inform us of various products and entice us into the purchase of said products.

Now maybe this is crazy talk (as the vast majority of the nonsensical ramblings emanating from my person is), but as a free-thinking adult, I have the choice to foolishly waste my money buying some unnecessary piece of detritus shed from the decayed flesh of our soulless, consumerist society. Or, I can choose not to purchase the product in question, and instead be thankful that the fine people of whichever corporation is marketing

the product have helped to pay for my monthly bus pass, my weather-channel updates, or the operating expenditures of this University.

To put it in a different context, I see advertising as a sort of intellectual Robin Hood—it takes from the stupid and gives to the intelligent. If you're dumb enough to run out and purchase some chunky soup of the "pop, zap, eat" variety because you saw an ad in the washroom, well, thanks for helping to keep revenues up and tuition down. I for one spend very little on anything outside of my monthly food and rent bill, other than the \$15 or so a month I set aside for my aviator sunglasses budget, yet I am constantly able to reap the (admittedly small) financial rewards afforded to me by those of you who have the uncontrollable urge to purchase everything corporate Canada sells you.

Of course, there are limits. Advertising to a captive audience, especially one composed of children, is not only unethical but should also be illegal. Thus, programs like "Channel One" in the United States—a "news broadcast" solely for elementary and secondary-school children filled with endless advertisements—are utterly unacceptable, as is all advertising in

public schools. However, the rest of us are not captive minors. We are free, legal-age individuals, and the best way to halt the environment-aping effects of consumerism is to stop buying stupid shit that we don't need and live a simpler lifestyle.

It's not advertisements that are responsible for the ailments some claim are caused by consumerism, it's us. It's easier to blame Zoom Media or whoever else for our problems than it is to focus our resources on educating and informing members of our society and reforming our own perceptions and beliefs about what success and "the good life" entail. But how ever more difficult this may be, it is the only realistic way of influencing social change.

So the next time you have your permanent marker poised ominously in front of you while using the facilities on campus, instead of defacing someone else's property, put that pen to a piece of paper and write something more effective, like a letter to an editor or a note to your younger siblings about how instead of buying them the latest video game for their next birthday, you'd prefer just to hang out and spend some time with them. Because, really, change starts within, not without.

## Dave Alexander's TOP TEN Ways to become more macho

- 10 Get yourself a Harley Davidson smoking jacket.
- 9 Become a Crocodile Hunter hunter.
- 8 Challenge a co-worker to a fight after work by the bike racks.
- 7 Steer all conversations in the direction of buck hunting.
- 6 A good, stiff Old Spice cologne.
- 5 Go to the beach specifically to kick sand in the face of anyone smaller than you.
- 4 Less Metrossexual, more Tyrannosaurus-Rexual.
- 3 Hire Chuck Norris' beard wangler.
- 2 Cover yourself in cheese and salsa... no wait...
- 1 Inxay on the OngeBospay ajampasy.



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# GATEWAY OPINION

A veritable juggernaut of loquaciousity

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### Physics

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Guest panelists from Big Bandwidth and more TBA

### Recreation and Leisure Studies

Wednesday, October 20, 2004

5-7 pm; Phys. Ed. E121

Guest panelists include, City of Leduc; City of Edmonton, Community Services; Gov't of Alberta, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development; Silvanest Enterprises and more TBA

### Forestry

Thurs., Oct 21st, 2004

5-7 pm; AF 1-13

Guest panelists include Alberta Plywood, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Weyerhaeuser & more TBA

### Human Ecology

Thurs., Oct 28th, 2004

11-12:20 pm; Rm. 301 Human Ecology Bldg

Guest panelists include Alberta Milk, Credit Counseling Services of Alberta, J. Ennis Fabrics, Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, and Performance Apparel

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# You don't need a car to walk your dog



JOSH KIENNER

It was a crisp fall morning. I was doing my daily Weyhe Ave 300m job. I ignore-alon on the way to school and relishing the beauty of the leaves on the trees that had, by this time, started to cover the sidewalk. While passing a storefront, I happened to notice a man blowing said leaves off of the sidewalk with a very strident and very annoying leaf blower. As it was the morning, and I am, in general, a surly prick, my first and only thought was, "Holy shit buddy—get a broom."

But that was that, and I continued on my merry way. That is until about two blocks down where I saw another man removing the leaves from the sidewalk—only this guy was literally pushing them off with a fucking garden hose.

The only way he could have been doing this more inefficiently is to push them off with a coal-fired Zamboni entirely fabricated from lead that was piloted by a robot that ran on elephant tusks. My next thought, after thinking up that horrendous metaphor, was this: how goddamn lazy are people getting, anyway?

When one actually sits down and thinks about it, some of the things we do to save ourselves minimal amounts of effort are pretty ridiculous and completely unnecessary. Take, for instance, those conveyor-belt moving-sidewalk things that airport managers traveled into the future to steal

from the Jetsons. Are you kidding me? It's not bad enough that you're about to climb into a giant hum of fuel-guzzling, goose-sucking, louder-than-your-drunk-uncle-at-thanksgiving-ness—you can't even propel yourself to it with your own dimply, underused appendages?

And speaking of propulsion: what the fuck is with cars? Due to the fact that, firstly, someone replaced our city planners' pens with bales of opium, and secondly, our transit system moves people about as effectively as a Sepultura song, owning a car in Edmonton is pretty much mandatory. What's not mandatory, however, is driving everywhere. Going to get some groceries two blocks away? May as well do some pollin't while you're at it. Walking the dog? Walking is for fucking hippies—hang that leash out the window and make Wiggles earn those free meals! It makes me want to slash people's tires. And throats.

I'm going to admit to this point that I'm far from perfect. Well, not that

far, but far enough that I'll occasionally drive when I could walk or ignite my clothes when I'm done with them so I don't have to wash them. This hypocrisy was actually pointed out to me while discussing this article with my fellow Gateway hippies, when one particularly insolent co-writer asked if I'd be writing it on my typewriter.

This brings me to an important point. I think that when using things like cars or conveyor belts or leaf blowers, one must ask oneself if there really isn't a better way to do things. I write on a computer not because I think I'd get curb stomped by a mummified, undead Charles Dickens if I was metaphorically pissing out this tasty brew of run-on sentences on parchment, or something like that. I do it because I genuinely feel that it allows me to pump out cock jokes more effectively.

But the point, fellow students, is this: next time you fire up the metaphorical lead-robot-tusk-leaf Zamboni, ask yourself if maybe you could just use a metaphorical broom instead.

remember this time last year being full of contentious, ray, ridiculous issues. Where are the organizational scandals, the posters comparing apples to Holocausts? Would it be too much to ask for an anarchist all-white pro-choice dance troupe?

This is important. This newspaper depends on you for material. If you don't start doing some stupid things soon, you're going to starve our poor opinion columnists to death—and you don't want that, right?

Besides, how hard could it be to start a dance team?

JAMES STORRKE

## THE BURLAP SACK

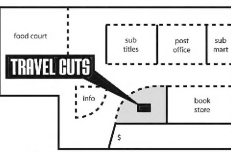
Rather than hand out a sack beating to some stupid group in reward for some idiotic blunder, this is for all the traditionally stupid groups across campus that have spent the past two months acting uncharacteristically rational.

I honestly thought that this would be a nice, controversial year. There's some wars, and some religious things, and bylaws to gripe about or something, but you've made a really poor showing so far, U of A. I see to

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# Fox News is always good for a laugh



JAMES  
ELFORD

A decision is imminent. After having denied us once already, it looks like the CRTC might finally lay off the heavy-handed paternalism, overlook its own bias against the American Right, and finally allow Canadians to enjoy the 24-hour-a-day parade of delusion that is the Fox News Channel.

Now, there are many good reasons to let Fox into Canada, such as the free exchange of ideas and all that other crap some professor would love to shove in your face like some kind of intellectual pie in a Three Stooges movie. But all of us true media connoisseurs know a better reason that easily trumps these mere "reasoned propositions": comedy.

Fox News, for those of you who haven't heard the controversy surrounding the network's style and obvious right-wing leanings, is a 24/7 "news" channel. It has quickly risen from a low-rated joke of a network to a well-watched joke of a network thanks to its constant flow of incoherence, questionable journalism and general bullshit. It runs on two basic principles: dedication to noises and flashy visuals like those on VLTs, and being so far up the president's ass that

they can fellate his uvula.

I don't know about you, but I'm getting ready to shit my pants laughing when Fox is finally available on Canadian airwaves. Why? Because laughing is the intellectual equivalent of vomiting, and every time I watch Fox, I can't help but guffaw at the way everything is presented through the thickest set of red, white, and blue-tinted glasses.

I'm not typical left-leaning Canadian elitist who loves to sneer at the Americans and conservatives simply for the positions they hold. I mean, I love to sneer and ridicule in general, but normally I get just as annoyed at people who attack the US mindlessly. Yet Fox somehow absolves me of this personal constraint by fitting all those stereotypes of Americans that made Rick Mercer's career. Much like the Benny Hill theme song, they can make everything hilarious, be it their constant battle against the obvious success in Iraq or the way reporter Carl Cameron made up the most ridiculous fake quotes for John Kerry on a story posted on Fox's website. Seriously, it included such gems as "Didn't my nails and cuticles look great? What a good debate!" That's way better than what a 13-year-old kid would come up with.

But the truly delicious hilarity filling of this fiasco is Bill O'Reilly, whose wild, ad hominem-filled verbal flailing borders on insane. The almost constant parade of lies and self-

delusion and the bombastic way he abuses guests seems like a bad parody rather than an actual show. For example, here's a particularly golden O'Reilly gem, said on air 27 April, 2004, after two US soldiers fled to Canada to avoid serving in Iraq:

"Now, if your government harbours these two deserters, doesn't send them back...there will be a boycott of your country which will hurt your country enormously. France is now feeling that sting."

Yes, we've all seen the mighty effects on the once proud French of the O'Reilly-led boycott. Woe unto the cheese eaters, for their God has forsaken them and the streets of Canada are filled with refugees in berets and striped shirts begging for baguettes. Such is the economic effect of O'Reilly's righteous anger. How is this not hilarious to anyone else? Did your parents just die in a horrible car accident? Oh really? Sorry, it's still funny.

So how does all this comedy justify bringing Fox News to Canada? Well, aside from the need to keep ourselves warm on those cold winter nights, this network is so ridiculous that if you truly fear its insidious influence, you're probably giving it too much credit. After all, Fox is more about pandering to the converted than truly changing any thinking minds. Of course, maybe you just don't trust us masses to think. That's fine, just get out of the way: The O'Reilly Factor is on and I need a laugh.

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# Banning books won't get us anywhere



SCOTT C.  
BOURGEOIS

I read a book about a month ago, and I was appalled by what I saw within its pages. This "story" was blatantly anti-authoritarian, with heavy-handed occult and racist themes. It was dark, it was psychologically disturbing, and worst of all, it was aimed at kids. Naturally, I'm talking about *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*. I think fifth like that should be taken away from our children and destroyed. After all, we shouldn't risk exposing our children to such subversive ideas.

Still with me? Good, because that last paragraph was obviously sarcastic. That book wasn't all that bad, at least in my opinion. But it does bring up a good point. Last week was Banned Book Week in the United States, a celebration of literature, especially those authors and works that have been targeted for dealing with questionable material. It's a truly sad reality that, even in today's society, certain people and groups would like to dictate morality in print. They believe there are books that should never reach the public eye.

Worse, they often succeed. Parent and school groups have succeeded in removing dozens of books from the shelves of schools throughout the United States. Books from the Goosebumps series to *Ulysses* have been censured over the past century. The unfortunate truth is that it doesn't take much to get a book taken off the shelf. Often, it takes only one angry minority or concerned parent to stage a sit-in at the local elementary school to have *The Indian in the Cupboard*

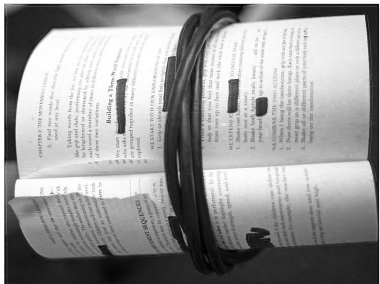


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MARY HALEBERT

**BLACK TAPE** Censoring books only serves to stop the flow of critical thought.

removed from the library.

Oh, and before you think that the southern United States is the only place where books are censored, perhaps you'd like to know that we here in Canada are just as guilty. A number of titles are actually confiscated at the border by Canadian customs officials, lest they reach our bookstores and spread their ideas. Even our beloved Canadian Green Party is acting to have books like *The Turner Diaries* and *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* put on a list of books unsuitable for sale in Canada.

The ultimate folly of these groups is that they are trying to stop the flow of good, critical thought. Many of these books present difficult issues to audiences both young and old, and give us a safe way to explore them. Isn't it better, after all, to learn about racism from *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* than, say, the KKK? Or how about learning about censorship from the book *Fahrenheit 451*? No, wait, that was banned too, from a school in Mississippi because it had the phrase "God damn" in it.

Ultimately, there's always going to be someone who disagrees with the material presented in a book, and it's up to us to fight for their right to keep those books in the public eye. Where would we be without our Atwoods, Kings, Dahls and Vonneguts? We'd be a much poorer society, that's for certain.

"But Scott," you ask, "how can I get involved in the fight against censorship?" Well, for starters you can mark your calendars. Next 20 February is the beginning of Freedom to Read Week here in Canada. Also, if you hear of any group looking to have a book taken off of our bookshelves or reading lists, you have the right to fight back.

After all, anyone who tries to have *Where's Waldo?* removed from elementary school bookshelves is asking for trouble. Are the misadventures of poor lost Waldo as dangerous as the thoughts espoused by Adolf Hitler when he penned *Mein Kampf*? Someone out there seems to think so, and they deserve a good solid kick in the head. The line starts behind me.

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FACULTY OF ARTS  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

# Saturday night's alright for being a lazy slob

We all need a day when we can just be our ugly, disgusting selves



ELLIE  
HEATH

appearance when I'm at my worst. It's quite uplifting.

And I don't have to think on Saturday. There's no pressure to be a philosopher, or a scientist, or a brilliant artist. I don't have to make people laugh, or build them up. I can just be. It's easy as pie on Saturday.

**Saturday doesn't judge you if you mumble obscenities at the people on TV; Saturday doesn't yell at you if you haven't cleaned your room, or washed any dishes in a week. No, Saturday lets you be who you are, in your least attractive, dirtiest, stinkiest form.**

Saturday is my favourite day of the week. It's the one day where I can justify doing absolutely nothing without feeling plagued by guilt. I don't have to try to look pretty. I don't have to brush my teeth. I can walk about from room to room looking like a greasy demon and nobody will be there to notice or comment.

It's such a forgiving day. Saturday doesn't judge you if you mumble obscenities at the people on TV; Saturday doesn't yell at you if you haven't cleaned your room, or washed any dishes in a week. No, Saturday lets you be who you are, in your least attractive, dirtiest, stinkiest form.

Sometimes, there's no greater feeling than being at your absolute dirtiest; knowing that you're at the peak of ugliness and relishing in it. There's nothing better than staring at myself through limp hair into the mirror, laughing at the dark circles around my eyes, reveling in the dead makeup remains that lie withered and left over from the night before. It's funny, but I find some beauty in moments like those: being able to accept myself and laugh at my mangled

Locking myself in, lying on the couch with some candy and a remote control by my side, I let the people on TV do all the work. After all, there's no better day than Saturday to watch TV with all those bad movies on Superstation.

And sometimes, if my mind is acting up and I need to exercise my brain for a while, I can grab a pen and a pad of paper and write something

entirely unrelated to school.

Because after all, homework is for Sunday. Really, anything referring to the term "work" can be divvied up among all the other days. I can't let Saturday become enveloped by the stress and anxiety of any other day. I owe it to myself to relax, to pamper myself, to laugh, to cry, to go crazy if I so desire. Saturday is a gift that cannot be wasted, and without it I'd be an absolute mess—wandering around school in my pajamas, babbling on to no one, hair a mess and my mind a wasteland of stats and essays.

In fact, there are many individual gifts that present themselves on a Saturday. Why, you can roam on the Internet or chat on MSN for hours without getting the urge to check WebCT.

I recommend everybody develop their own special "Saturday." It doesn't have to be Saturday specifically; it doesn't even have to be a whole day. Even just part of a day is good enough to work some sanity back into the stress and busy-busy lifestyle that absorbs many people in university. It's the perfect antidote to life.

Saturday is my savior, but it isn't just a day—it's an outlook, a way of seeing things. Saturday is the ability to let yourself be, to give yourself a time out, to be at your worst, to love yourself for that. I think everybody deserves a Saturday.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: LEANNE FONG

**WHERE DID YOU SAY YOU WERE FROM?** Maybe you could lose a flag or two.

## Leave your flags off your bags when you go abroad



DH  
CRAWFORD

with a sasquatch. Hey, wait a minute, my sasquatch friend had to bail on our last snowboarding weekend because he had to get the swab after drinking one too many Bubba Kegs and getting a rash from that girl he went home with—beer ads aren't gospel at all!

But besides that, advertising to everyone that you are from Canada isn't the best way to be patriotic while globetrotting. Why not try drinking the Americans you meet in hostels under the table and then saving their eyebrows when they're pashed there? Also, take pictures. Or maybe try leaving the hostel bar and meeting locals. You can even make the effort to speak to them in their language to show that Canadians are nice, culturally sensitive people. Just avoid words like *putin de merde*, *puta madre* or *du schweine baure*.

I can understand that some people have patches on their bags because they don't want people to think they're American. That's really the only legitimate reason, and it's why I had one on my bag. But I ended up taking it off because of how silly it all got. Evidence of this walks past us every day, attached to the people who don't remove their patches from their bags when they get back to Canada. If our campus is this saturated, imagine the excess amount in the world's hostels, museums and Irish-themed bars.

Add to that the fact that here in Canada the patches turn from just a poor act of patriotism to one that's kind of pretentious. It's a nice way of constantly bragging to everyone that you're an international traveler. Congratulations on "finding yourself" in Europe or wherever instead of using the upstairs washroom and a *Glamour* magazine there, you ass.

So sew on your patches if you feel the need, but just make sure you realize that you might be the double-double guy and the whole population of Slovenia is making fun of you. And, for the love of God, take them off when you get home.

Canada is being made fun of by the rest of the world, and it's not even the usual jokes about hockey hair. Céline Dion or the fact that we're seen as America's bitch. Those points of ridicule, after all, can be easily defended. Really, hockey hair is no worse than the Euro-mullet, we all hate Céline Dion, and everyone knows bitches aren't bigger and on top.

No, this time they're making fun of the Canadian patches we sew proudly onto our backpacks every time we leave the country. According to an Aussie girl I met traveling, they think the patches are given to every Canadian backpacker at the airport to serve as the grown-up version of those stickers that parents paste to their kids' bags at large confusing gatherings like K-days and South Edmonton Common.

To make matters worse, some of us are obviously really paranoid about getting lost while abroad and feel the need to take it a step farther by sewing on more than one patch. I met a guy who had something announcing his nationality on every side of his bag, plus a flag stitched to the front of his hat bigger than an open hand. This is the kind of guy who hopes his dad will meet him at the airport with a double-double from Tim Hortons when he gets back.

Now, I know we've all seen the Molson ads that tell us proper Canadian patriots sew their country's flag to their backpacks, and I know it's tough not to treat beer ads as gospel. After all, maybe Bubba is a good name for beer, all women are extremely hot and excessively slutty—in the good non-STD carrying way—and any weekend you want can be spent snowboarding

"After all, it takes a certain kind of woman to pull off a dragon-tailed, floor length leather skirt with lacing that gives a cheeky peek at the derriere."

said in **ed** June 5, 2004





## STUDENTS' UNION PAGE

OCTOBER 7 2004

## YOUR SU DOLLARS

The portfolio of the Vice President (Operations & Finance) is a diverse one, but the most important activity within the portfolio is the preparation of the Students' Union's annual operating budget. It is no surprise that this action is treated with such severity, when you consider that the operating revenues of the organization are over \$9 Million.

The Students' Union budget can be divided into two major categories: the Operating, Capital & Non-Dedicated Reserves; and the Dedicated Reserves. The latter consists of \$1.9 Million in dedicated fees collected to support ten distinct groups that operate outside of the Students' Union's base budget. These fees are specific levies that have been approved in campus-wide student referenda, between 1988 and 2002. Of the membership fees that each student pays to the Students' Union, 54% is made up of these referendum fees.

Our Operating, Capital & Non-Dedicated Reserves budget is essentially the base

operating budget of the organization. This portion of the budget covers all of the activities of the Students' Union, including running businesses, providing services and advocating on behalf of students to the University and the Government. Your Students' Union has worked hard over the years to raise funds through means other than our membership fee and as a result, the remaining 46% of your fees makes up only \$1.7 Million or 18% of the total revenues to the organization. The remaining \$7.4 Million is raised primarily by our businesses, with some additional grants coming from external sources. The end result is that when compared to other student associations across the country, we are one of the least reliant on membership fees to derive our revenues.

With the 1993 loan paid off, additional funds have become available to undertake some very important and critical capital upgrades as well as expanding our advocacy portfolios.

Some improvements that you will see this year are newly recovered sofas within the Alumni room, a better presentation of our campus bars, extra seating around SUBstage, a new sound system to expand the use of Dinwoodie Lounge, and a data projector to increase the flexibility of Myer Horowitz Theatre.

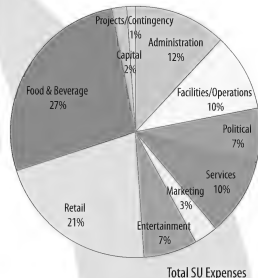
If you would like to find out more about your Students' Union services, businesses, or advocacy, please visit the Students' Union website at [www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca) or come visit any of your executives at 2-900 SUB.

Sincerely,  
Alvin Law  
Vice President Operations & Finance

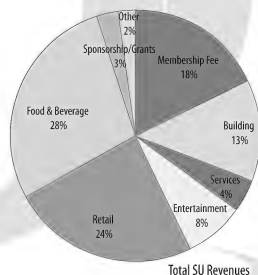
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET 2004/2005  
(not including Dedicated Fee Reserves)

Area of Expenditure	Revenues	Expenditures	Net
Administration	\$1,826,003	\$1,151,760	\$674,243
Facilities and Operations	\$1,224,139	\$894,362	\$329,777
Political	\$63,000	\$678,875	\$(615,875)
Services	\$355,721	\$935,869	\$(580,148)
Marketing/Media	\$120,210	\$249,027	\$(128,817)
Entertainment/Events	\$706,134	\$678,039	\$28,095
Retail	\$2,228,945	\$1,915,197	\$313,748
Food & Beverage	\$2,591,824	\$2,470,662	\$121,162
<b>Total Operating Funds</b>	<b>\$9,115,976</b>	<b>\$8,973,791</b>	<b>\$142,186</b>
Capital Expenditures	\$120,848	\$221,181	\$(100,333)
Non-Dedicated Reserves	\$50,000	\$80,000	\$(30,000)
<b>Total Capital &amp; Non-Dedicated Reserves</b>	<b>\$9,286,824</b>	<b>\$9,274,972</b>	<b>\$11,853</b>

TOTAL SU EXPENSES



TOTAL SU REVENUES



# Crisis in Zimbabwe

A feature by Cosanna Preston

Photo by Jesse Whitehead

## THE HOT AFRICAN SUN

beats down on the fragile woman desperately trying to reach the mission food station. For more than 15 kilometres she wills herself along. For baby on her back, her legs wobbling with every step, until finally she finds the place and the missionaries greet her with food and water. Overjoyed, she fumbles with the clumsy harness to free her baby and give it nourishment, only to be met with an ashen face—her baby has died.

In today's Zimbabwe there are plenty of these stories, but none will ever be recorded in President Robert Mugabe's press.

Hailed in the 1980s for leading a successful fight for independence against the British Empire, Mugabe and his Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU PF) party have driven the country, which once supported the second largest economy in Africa, into the ground.

Now it's getting harder and harder to survive in Zimbabwe. Half a million people starved to death just last year. Inflation is 500 per cent, unemployment is 80 per cent and rising, two-thirds of the children are not in school anymore, hospitals are running out of medication, and Mugabe's reign of terror leaves people checking over their shoulders for members of the youth militia, the mob of young people who have been sucked in to do the ZANU PF's dirty work in exchange for money and jobs.

"All those who are strong, he's made them feel inconvenient by chasing after them until they've left Zimbabwe, and so many people are outside the country because they ran away from constant threats to their lives," explains Plus Ncube, Archbishop of Bulawayo and the so-called "rebel priest" because of his vocal opposition to Mugabe.

Mugabe's policies have reduced Zimbabwe's average life expectancy from 58 years in 1995 to 35 years in 2004, left a quarter of the children malnourished to the point of stunted growth, and have done nothing to combat the growing AIDS crisis in which one in four adults is infected with the virus.

Mugabe has forced his people into a life of fear, silencing any contesting force. The churches are divided into pro- and anti-Mugabe sects, he's shut down the independent newspapers and radio stations, the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are harassed and suffer from new legislation forcing them to register with the government; under a new Public Order and Security Act, people cannot hold a public gathering without police permission. So, in order to converse in the streets, one must beg at the heels of a government crony. Like nearly every other official, the police are partisan.

"The police have stood round while people are beaten by party agents, and the people appeal to them. 'Please, come and help us.' They stand around there and do nothing. The policemen are supposed to be everyone's friend, but that's how Mugabe operates," says Ncube.

However, the current situation is not solely a result of Mugabe's presidency, according to Brian Kagoro, an activist constitutional lawyer in Zimbabwe. Though he has intensely aggravated any sense of structure in the country, there are many colonial and post-colonial factors that play into Zimbabwe's instability as well.

Once controlled by one of the most oppressive regimes in the history of African colonialism, the citizens of British Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, fought a four-year war of independence led by Mugabe and emerged independent in 1980, ushering in a new yet questionable constitution.

"You transferred to black people political power... and you retain it in the hands of the white folk economic power, and in the middle you have the mass of the people who begin to realize that independence is not just having a black parliament representative," says Kagoro.

"Independence is the capacity to self-determine what you wish to do with your life, your economic prospects, and there were no prospects in the new independence."

The largest issue left untouched was land redistribution from the whites to the blacks. The independence agreement with Britain made the land question untouchable for ten years. White farmers were permitted to stay on their land, only open to willing-buyer, willing-seller negotiations, hardly an attractive proposition for the poor and recently liberated blacks.

**Mugabe and his Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU PF) party have driven the country, which once supported the second largest economy in Africa, into the ground.**

At the ten-year mark, the International Monetary Fund, an organization which works toward a stable free-market international system and lends money to developing nations if they follow strict guidelines, arrived in Zimbabwe. Unable to influence the economy, Mugabe supported the social systems already in place, boosting healthcare and creating a new generation of well-educated blacks who he hired into the civil service. But, as Kagoro explains, the IMF was unimpressed with Mugabe's lack of fiscal care and implemented structural adjustment programs, forcing him to "roll back" state involvement. This meant cutbacks in the civil service and, more importantly, it meant the state could not redistribute land—Zimbabwe was forced to remain unequal.

The situation has since degraded further into a tyranny led by Mugabe. This came about in part because the undemocratic constitution supplies him with virtually unlimited power, explains Kagoro.

"The constitution is meant to limit the exercise of power."

The Zimbabwean constitution actually facilitates the exercise of arbitrary power."

Parliament in Zimbabwe is nothing more than Mugabe's rubber stamp, according to Ncube. Though the House is overrun by opposition MPs, Mugabe retains the power to silence any challenger.

"Opposition MPs were harassed and prosecuted but they were not convicted; they were tortured. One member of parliament told us he was stripped naked, electro-shocked—he passed out and afterward he was ordered to drink his own urine from the floor," Ncube describes.

But MPs are not the only terrorized Zimbabweans. Anyone who criticizes the government is a target. A 15-year-old boy protesting at a cricket World Cup game in Harare, Zimbabwe's capital city, was arrested, electro-shocked, beaten, tortured, and released only to be rearrested again a week later.

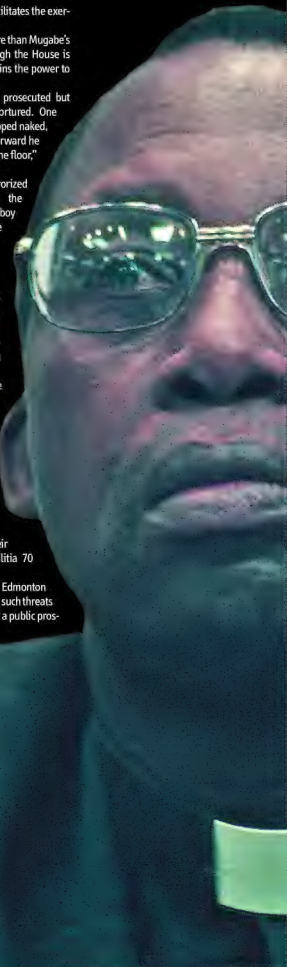
Ncube recalls a 19-year-old girl who was captured by the youth militia, gang raped, impregnated, and infected with HIV. She described the event at his cathedral, and Ncube later dressed her as a nun to smuggle her out of the country.

"The things that happen in Zimbabwe are absolutely primitive, you can't believe it, and this is just the tip of the iceberg," says Ncube.

"The biggest crime in Zimbabwe is to belong to the Opposition party. You can die for it. You can lose your house; they can burn it down because of that."

Ncube estimates over 300 murders have occurred in this fashion since 2000. Many people have died in their sleep, their houses set alight by mobs of youth militia 70 strong.

One refugee, now a member of the Edmonton Zimbabwean community, recalls receiving push threats before he fled the country in 2001. He was a public pro-



# babwe

color in Harare with the difficult task of prosecuting the same politicians who made the laws. Everything, he said, was politicized. For his safety he asked that his name not be used.

"Initially it's quite a thrill, because my colleagues and I realized that we were being effective and we took threats as threats and believed that we had protection," he recalls. The prosecutor's job involved working hand-in-hand with the police, he explains. The police were supposed to offer protection but, as the threats mounted, the lawyer soon realized they would not provide a safeguard.

He recalls leaving court many times and having to flee through angry mobs protesting his decisions. He experienced threats, continuous harassing phone calls, violent attacks, and was accused of trying to further the interests of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), Zimbabwe's Opposition party.

One particular time he was walking home late from work. The roads were dark and tensions were high, but it was a seven-minute route he took daily. He never suspected people would go to such lengths to harm him.

"And just all of a sudden I'm pulled off the road, five guys, and they pushed me up against a tree and shook me up, adding, 'Look, in this matter, it's not a request. Let it go right away.'"

The men never identified themselves, but due to the nature of the case the lawyer is sure they were ZANU PF thugs.

Another time he was called into his government boss' office and ordered to drop a case "or else." He challenged her, asking "Or else what?"

"Or face the consequences. I can't protect you from these mobs that have run amok," was her response.

When he demanded to know who was sending the people, she told him it was the system everyone was caught up in. He was told that this was the state of affairs and that he would have to embrace it.

That's when the lawyer got out; he doesn't

know if he can ever return. After he left, thugs ransacked his parents' house and harassed them for months, demanding to know where their son had gone.

"It's a humbling experience to be able to say that my contribution at that small level could cause so much distress to those politicians. You know that the stakes are really, really high. I did what I could and I'm still here and alive to fight another battle."

Many refugees have similar stories. Another who asked not to be named worked as an elections monitor during the 2001 presidential elections, widely believed to have been rigged.

The monitor was constantly harassed. He was beaten, robbed, and threatened in the middle of the night. The first time was the day before the election. He was going home after picking up his election ID for his polling station when he was jumped by six men, beaten with batons, kicked and slapped. The men stole his wallet and his polling ID—anything to prevent a fair election.

**The majority of Zimbabweans still suffer in their country, surviving through fixed elections and land-grab violence.**

"They want to make you feel like you have to be one of them and want to change your ideas, the way you think, the way you see things. You should move or shift to whatever they want," explains the monitor.

Now in Canada, both he and the lawyer must start from scratch, working labour jobs well below their accreditation. They are constantly in touch with their families, but the monitor especially worries because his younger brothers are still susceptible to ZANU PF militia tactics.

"It's a problem every day. If they say they want to be inclined to any political party there are consequences they're going to face. You're not at ease when you think about what's happening back home."

The majority of Zimbabweans still suffer in their country, surviving through fixed elections and land-grab violence. When the MDC formed in 1999,

Mugabe felt his first threat in 19

years. Overwhelming support was shown for the labour-based party from white farmers and labourers to blacks of all classes. It culminated when Mugabe's proposed constitutional reforms failed in a 2000 referendum, and, as Ncube describes it, he quickly grew very "jealous and sour." He organized a full assault on any group known to support the MDC. War veterans and the youth militia were mobilized to terrorize party supporters and invade white-owned farms.

Ncube, Kagoro and others say the land grabs were committed under the auspices of redistribution, but in reality the land went to Mugabe's cronies, most of whom did not know how to farm or have an interest in maintaining the land. The result was a full-scale destruction of Zimbabwe's agriculture, its economic mainstay.

Yet, according to the activists, the land grabs were not enough to break support of the MDC, and Mugabe, determined to win the 2001 presidential election, passed legislation hindering the democratic process, the main piece of which stated that the voter roll could not be inspected.

According to Ncube, over 800,000 dead voters were used on the list. He recalls a woman seeing her husband's name above hers every time she votes. He has been dead since 1974. In addition, Ncube says there are 600,000 duplicate names on the voter list, ballot boxes are stuffed from below, and terror is a constant tool at the polls.

"They'd give people binoculars and they look at the ballot and say, 'On voting day we will be on top of the trees and on top of the mountains and we will see how you have voted and if we don't win, we're coming back to burn your homes,'" says Ncube.

This is the current state of Zimbabwe and, with an impending election in 2005, the refugee lawyer predicts the country is set to explode if something is not done soon.

But even if steps are taken to pacify the militants, Ncube doesn't believe a fair election can take place with Mugabe at the helm. Currently, the land redistribution issue and other problems plaguing the country are pushed aside while Zimbabweans wait for Mugabe, at 80 years of age, to either step down or die.

"The problem is with Mugabe. He knows as soon as he's out of power he will be prosecuted. He has created too many enemies within ZANU PF and outside. He knows he cannot trust anybody, and he's using his office to stay on. What he needs to leave office is to know the next leader will not prosecute him," explains Kagoro.

"Maybe what the people of Zimbabwe need to understand is that Mugabe is afraid to leave office. If the people of Zimbabwe address that, then maybe we can find a solution. ... So this is where we're at, and it sounds like a tall order, but it's doable."

For now, Zimbabwean refugees like the lawyer and the election monitor anxiously watch the political tides. They keep in constant contact with people back home and contribute where they can to stabilize the country, hoping their families will remain safe and that someday they can return to the Zimbabwe they grew up in and cherished.

"Three and a half million people are outside Zimbabwe, and Zimbabweans are a people who really love their country dearly," says Ncube.

"The fact that they decided to leave Zimbabwe and keep out of Zimbabwe demonstrates how impossible it is to live there right now. Every two months prices are doubling, and we just don't know what to do as a church because there are so many poor people and we just can't handle it. This is our plight in Zimbabwe."



# SPORTS

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca • Thursday, 7 October, 2004

## Football Bears hope to bounce back against Bisons

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
Sports Writer

After their first loss of the season and a fleeting stay at the top of CIS football, the Golden Bears are looking to get back to their winning ways as they head to Manitoba to take on the Bisons this weekend.

Last weekend's loss dropped the Bears (4-1) from the top ranking in the country all the way to seventh, and that should provide some extra

jump to a team dissatisfied with their last effort.

"Of course the loss against Calgary will provide some motivation for us. We lost our number one ranking and we didn't play very well," said Bears defensive back Steven Boyko. "We're going to have to play better this week, it's as simple as that, and I know we will."

Head coach Jerry Friesen preferred to put a positive spin on last week's events, saying that the loss will provide his team with an opportunity to refocus, review and adjust for this week-

end's match against the 1-3 Bisons.

"I don't think that the drop in the rankings is a big thing for us," said Friesen. "Calgary was a good football team and we have to realize that in Canada West if you don't come to play—no matter how high you're ranked or what your record is—that everybody is a competitor, and if we're not ready to compete we'll be in trouble."

Alberta's running game versus the Manitoba defense will be a key match-up in the game this weekend. The Bears' attack is spearheaded by

running back Jarred Winkel, who has amassed 777 rushing yards through five games to lead Canada West and sit third in the nation. The Bisons' defense should provide a good challenge, though, as it is first in the conference against the run, allowing only 4.1 yards per carry.

"Manitoba has a completely different football team from what we just faced," said Boyko. "Their quarterback has a different style; they have big, quick receivers and a solid defense, especially against the run."

"Manitoba has a team that does a lot of different things and we'll have to be prepared and just play sound fundamental football," added Friesen. "We have yet to play a full game. We've been sporadic and have to work on our consistency and then we will be all set."

While the Bears are hoping to break their trend of inconsistent play, the weekend will continue another trend: Manitoba will be the third consecutive opponent to face the Bears fully rested after coming off a bye week. The Bears are 1-1 in that situation so far this season, and Friesen insisted that the intervention of the schedule makers isn't something that fazes him.

"This is just the part of the schedule. Calgary had a bye, Manitoba has a bye, even Simon Fraser had a bye before we faced them, but it doesn't matter. We have to be prepared and go play our own game and get going."

The game will be broadcast live on [www.anysportsanytime.com](http://www.anysportsanytime.com), with kickoff at noon Saturday.



FILE PHOTO: JEFFREY GREENHAUS

**STAMPEDE** Canada West-leading rusher Jarred Winkel will try to bowl over the Bisons when he and the Golden Bears head to Manitoba Saturday.

### CHANCE TO CLINCH

If the Bears beat the Bisons on Saturday they'll clinch a spot in the Canada West playoffs for the second straight year. Prior to last year, the team missed the playoffs for nine seasons in a row.

A victory would also give them their fifth win of the year, a total they haven't achieved since 1993. The Bears haven't won more than five games in a season since 1984, when they finished with a 7-1 record.

## Field hockey Pandas will set sights on Victoria Vikes at Calgary tournament

GLYNIS MILNE  
Sports Writer

Last season, the only team the Pandas field hockey squad managed to beat were the now-defunct Manitoba Bisons. But two weekends ago in Vancouver, they defeated the Calgary Dinos at the first Canada West tournament of the year.

Now, when the nationally fourth-ranked Pandas (1-2) enter this weekend's second tournament, hosted by Calgary (0-3), they hope to use the momentum from the UBC tournament to go after the second-ranked Victoria Vikes (2-1), who beat them 2-1 in Vancouver. But while the Vikes, who along with the top-ranked UBC Thunderbirds (3-0) have monopolized the CIS championship since 1997, will not be an easy target, Pandas head coach Carla Sommerville has set them as the next target for her improving squad.

"I still think UBC is the better of those two schools, and we're going to have to put the pieces into play, but this weekend coming up we're going to set our sights on Victoria," said Pandas head coach Carla Sommerville. "It's a matter of fine tuning some things from last weekend. We know we're on the right track, and we don't have any major things that we have to change. We're excited about this weekend; we have a lot of momentum coming out of last weekend."

Sommerville attributes that momentum in large part to players who have come together as a team very well so far this season.

"It's been very positive, we have a very positive team this year, people are really dedicated."

The Pandas finished strongly in each of their three games in Vancouver, but they fell behind early in each match, so Sommerville said one of her major goals this weekend is to improve her team's first-half play.

"We don't want to play from behind, so that's something we want to improve on," said Sommerville. "We had very strong second halves in all three games, which was positive, but we need to play from ahead."

Aside from trying to knock off the Vikes, the Pandas will also use the upcoming tournament as a learning experience as they try to build themselves up to a level where they can challenge the powerhouse Thunderbirds. It's likely that the teams will meet at the national championships in November, which the Pandas are hosting, and Sommerville said she's aiming to be able to beat the Thunderbirds by then.

"This weekend we're going to learn as much about them as we can," she said. "We know that we're going to be at the national championship, they're going to be at the national championship, so for us it's about learning. We're really stressing that to our athletes. UBC, they're the ones that are setting the bar. We have to raise our play up to theirs."

Knowing that they will be at nationals as host team means that the Pandas can use this weekend's tournament as an opportunity to study UBC without having to worry about winning or losing at this point.

"We only have to beat UBC once this year, and that once could be in the national championship," said Sommerville.



FILE PHOTO: DESOLIE GOSSEN

**A TOUGH CHALLENGE** The Pandas are heading to Calgary for their second tournament of the year.

# Bears look for a fresh start as hockey season opens in Manitoba

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Sports Editor

The Golden Bears are entering the new Canada West hockey season with a new look and a clean slate, as they try to erase the memories of last year's national championship collapse after an undefeated conference season.

Now, as they open their regular season tomorrow and Saturday in Manitoba against the Bisons, they already know that they'll have a chance to redeem themselves at this year's University Cup, which they'll host in March.

The Bears finished their pre-season with a 5-2-1 record, which, while impressive, is a step down from last year. But Bears head coach Rob Daum still seemed pleased with the level of his team at this early juncture.

"For this time of the year, I feel comfortable with our team," he said. "We have a lot of work to do, but it's October, and you're supposed to have a lot of work to do in October, so that's not a surprise at all. We're happy with the people we have on our team; it's just a matter of putting into place our team play and solidifying that. That's a process you go through every year, and it's no different this year."

Alberta lost five star players to graduation after last season, including goaltender Clayton Pool, defenseman and captain Blair St Martin, and forwards Ryan Wade, Kevin Marsh and Kris Knoblauch. While Daum has attracted strong recruits to replace those players—including goaltender BJ Borna, who won a Memorial Cup with the Kootenay Ice in 2001—he admits that filling their skates will take time.

"I think the guys that have come into our team have all done pretty



**READY TO ROLL** The Golden Bears are done with exhibition matches and ready for the Canada West regular season, which begins this weekend. FILE PHOTO: JEFFREY GREENIAUS

well. We're really happy with the additions," said Daum. "You cannot replace the quality of players that we lost, just because they'd been here for five years and you can't expect anybody to come in as a first-year guy and replace those players. But as a team we're going to have to find a way to replace the players we've lost. Some of the players who had lesser roles last year are going to have to step up."

According to Daum, the Bears don't have any glaring weak spots in their game at this point. Instead, he said that the team simply needs to gain experience and get better as they go along.

"I don't think we're particularly weak at one area. Our penalty killing has been inconsistent, but at this time of the year that's not anything you get too concerned about as long as you shore it up through the course of the

regular season. And I don't know that there's any area that we've been particularly strong in, either. Our whole game has to improve."

With a guaranteed national championship berth as the host team, the Bears know they have something to look forward to in March. Daum said his goal for the year is to properly build up to that experience.

"I think that's the best way to look at

it, is that when you know you're going to be in the championship, that's an exciting thing," said Daum. "But you can't get too excited about it in October, because you've got a process you've got to go through to build your team throughout the year to make sure you can really enjoy the excitement of the national tournament. The only way you can do that is to be in a position to win it."

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## Ringette club to host Team USA

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Sports Editor

On a weekend when all of the Pandas and Golden Bears teams are either playing on the road or not playing at all, the U of A ringette club will try to draw the attention of sports fans on campus when they host an exhibition game against Team USA.

Admission is free for the 7:30pm Saturday game, to be played at Clare Drake Arena, and the club will try to give it an "event" atmosphere, including jersey raffles and a showcase of young ringette teams during the intermissions.

"This is an opportunity to get the ringette community throughout Edmonton excited, because you're going to see some pretty good ringette," said Michelle Lennox, a player with the U of A squad who doubles as its PR representative. "You're going to see Team USA and a very, very strong U of A team. We're hoping to gain interest across campus with this."

**"We're anticipating a tough game against Team USA, but it's nothing we can't handle."**

MICHELLE LENNOX,  
U OF A RINGETTE CLUB PLAYER

The American squad pales in comparison to Canada and Finland, the world's two ringette powerhouses, and is currently touring Canada playing as many games as they can as they try to prepare for next month's world championship in Sweden. But while they aren't a top team at the inter-

national level, they should provide a challenge for their Alberta hosts.

"They're the national team, so they're good, but they're nothing compared to the level that Team Canada's at, because in Canada ringette is a really big thing whereas it's not so big in the US," said Lennox. "We're pretty good this year. We played our first league game [Sunday against the Edmonton Hornets] and beat them 9-1, so our skill level is really high this year. ... We're anticipating a tough game against Team USA, but it's nothing we can't handle."

Lennox expressed hope that bringing in a national team as an opponent would draw enough interest to allow her young club, which is entering its second year and is not affiliated with the University's athletics department, to showcase itself and its sport.

"It's very fast, it's a fitness sport, and you've got to strategize," she said. "We're hoping to get interest so that people come out, see what it's all about, and realize that it's a good sport, and just give ourselves a future, basically."

Lennox admits that playing the exhibition match on a long weekend may make it difficult to draw a crowd. But the good fortune of having it scheduled when there are no Pandas or Golden Bears home events to compete with it could help to counteract that effect to some extent.

"That might work in our favour," said Lennox. "But the downside is that it's Thanksgiving weekend. I know people will probably be busy with that, but it sounds like we'll get a good crowd. I'm going to get anybody and everybody I know who's going to be in Edmonton to go to it. It should be a fun event. I'm really looking forward to it."

## Paralympics were wrongly ignored

Canada had an excellent medal haul in Athens—we just didn't hear about it



PAUL  
OWEN

Sports  
Commentary

Ever heard of Jeff Adams? How about Chantal Petitclerc? Kyle Shewfelt? Chances are that this summer only the last of the three crept into your consciousness, if only for a week or two, as he became the first Canadian to win an individual gold medal in Olympic gymnastics.

Adams, on the other hand, is a two-time gold medalist, has medaled in five separate Games, is a six-time world champion, has held two different world records, has climbed all 1776 stairs of the CN Tower and has climbed to the summit of the Acropolis. The amazing part is that he has done it in all in a wheelchair. He's one of Canada's premier Paralympians and has been the face of Canadian Paralympic athletes for almost a decade, regularly appearing on Olympic broadcasts for the CBC.

Petitclerc, meanwhile, is the dominant force in women's wheelchair racing. In the recent Paralympic Games she won five gold medals and set four world records, bringing her career total to 16 medals—ten of them gold—making her the most decorated track athlete in Canadian history. She also won the gold medal in the 800m in August, when wheelchair racing was a demonstration sport.

For a country that lauded the poor

performance of its athletes in Athens, we have almost turned a blind eye to our success in the second Olympics this year. At the Paralympics, which are held in conjunction with the Olympics every four years, Canadians won 28 gold medals, the third-highest total, and their total of 72 medals was good enough for seventh place.

**For a country that lauded the poor performance of its athletes in Athens, we have almost turned a blind eye to our success in the second Olympics this year.**

Yet most people, myself included, had no clue about any of this, a sad fact that can be blamed on media coverage. The CBC, which showed upwards of 16 hours of Olympic coverage a day this summer, only showed one block of the Paralympics a day, and the times rotated between 2pm, 7pm and 11:30pm so that any casual viewer would be hard pressed to know when exactly the coverage was. Adams' 800m race in August, a race he crashed in, was not aired on CBC, despite how many times we had to watch Perdita Felicien fall flat, both literally and figuratively.

Of course, the CBC is still well ahead of the Paralympic curve, just like Canada has always been with our athletes. NBC, who dished out a whopping \$5.7 billion for the US

rights to the Olympics from 2000 through 2012, aired 1210 hours of the Athens Games on their main network and cable affiliates this summer. In contrast, they aired zero hours of Paralympic coverage. None. Americans won 88 medals and their country didn't see a single one of them on television. Their Olympic ratings drew an average Nielsen rating of 14.7, the high of the summer rerun season, but there was no attempt to air the world's second-largest sporting event.

Both Australian and Canadian Paralympic coverage in 2000 drew better than expected, and the Australian Broadcasting Company even expanded their coverage midway through the Games to accommodate the demand. Despite this, not a single American television network stepped up to buy the US rights. Even ABC, a perpetual loser in the primetime ratings, would rather throw brilliant programming like *The Benefactor* and *Wife Swap* at us than take a risk on what might have turned out to be the sleeper hit of the fall.

With no American TV coverage, the Paralympics cannot grow significantly in awareness, so it shouldn't be too expensive to acquire at least some limited broadcast rights, and now's the time to do it. Paralympic athletes deserve the exposure, and we deserve to see them. Until they get it, I'll just feel sorry for all those who missed Zhang Hanyuan hopping on her right leg, not wearing a prosthetic, and using that same leg to fling herself to a world record in the women's T-42 long jump.

Too bad you have no clue what I'm talking about.



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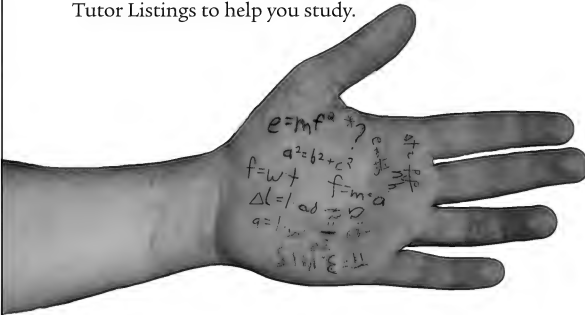
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## THE STATS PAGE

### Football

#### Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	OTL	PF	PA	PTS
Alberta	5	4	1	0	0	134	100	8
Saskatchewan	5	4	1	0	0	170	60	8
UBC	4	2	2	0	0	104	122	4
Simon Fraser	4	2	2	0	0	82	106	4
Calgary	4	2	2	0	0	76	100	4
Manitoba	4	1	3	0	0	50	100	2
Regina	4	0	4	0	0	57	95	0

#### Week six schedule

Friday	Saturday
Regina @ Calgary 7pm	Alberta @ Manitoba 12pm
SFU @ UBC 8pm	

### Women's Soccer

#### Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
UBC	7	5	1	1	20	3	16
Victoria	7	4	1	2	29	5	14
Lethbridge	8	4	4	0	17	18	12
Calgary	6	3	1	2	8	4	11
Trinity Western	7	3	2	2	14	9	11
Alberta	7	3	3	1	21	16	10
Saskatchewan	7	3	4	0	8	15	9
Regina	9	0	9	0	4	56	0

#### Schedule

Last night	Saturday
Sask 2 Regina 0	Calgary @ Regina 12pm
	TWU @ Victoria 1pm
Sunday	Wednesday, 13 October
Calgary @ Regina 12pm	UBC @ TWU 6pm

#### CIS Top Ten (last week)

1. UBC (2)	6. Ottawa (4)
2. Western (3)	7. Queen's (5)
3. McGill (1)	8. UPEI (NR)
4. Dalhousie (6)	9. Laval (9)
5. Victoria (7)	10. Calgary (NR)

### Men's Soccer

#### Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
UBC	6	4	1	1	18	5	13
Trinity Western	6	4	1	1	14	6	13
Victoria	6	4	1	1	13	6	13
Alberta	6	3	1	2	17	7	11
Calgary	6	1	3	2	8	15	5
Lethbridge	6	1	5	0	3	23	3
Saskatchewan	6	0	5	1	8	18	1

#### Schedule

Saturday	Wednesday, 13 October
TWU @ Victoria 3:15pm	UNC @ TWU 8:15pm

#### CIS Top Ten (last week)

1. Montréal (2)	T6. Western Ontario (4)
2. Saint Mary's (1)	T6. Victoria (10)
3. Carleton (3)	8. Alberta (9)
4. Trinity Western (4)	9. Toronto (NR)
5. UBC (7)	10. Mount Allison (NR)

### Field Hockey

#### Canada West standings

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
UBC	3	3	0	0	9	2	9
Victoria	3	2	1	0	7	3	6
Alberta	3	1	2	0	4	5	3
Calgary	3	0	3	0	3	13	0

#### Canada West tournament #2 (at Calgary)

Friday	Saturday
Victoria vs Alberta 1pm	UBC vs Alberta 11am
UBC vs Calgary 3pm	Victoria vs Calgary 1pm

#### Sunday

Calgary vs Alberta 11am
Victoria vs UBC 1pm

### Men's Hockey

Friday	Saturday
Alberta @ Manitoba 6pm	Alberta @ Manitoba 6pm
Regina @ Lethbridge 7pm	Regina @ Lethbridge 7pm
Sask @ UBC 8:30pm	Sask @ UBC 8:30pm

## U of T cancels planned stadium

KENT CARTER  
The Varsity

TORONTO (CUP)—A controversial plan to build a new 25 000-seat stadium at the University of Toronto collapsed last Friday when the University abruptly announced that it could no longer afford to pay its share of the cost.

The stadium was to have been built on the site of the old Varsity Stadium in time for the 2007 FIFA Under-21 World Cup, and would have housed the Toronto Argonauts, the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) and U of T's various varsity and intramural sports teams. The now-defunct project was to have been funded jointly by the U of T, the Argos, the CSA, and the federal and provincial governments.

However, the U of T announced in a press release last week that it was canceling the project because it was "sidelined by the cost," as price estimates had risen from initial estimates of \$80 million to well over \$100 million. The climbing cost was blamed on design changes necessitated by land disputes and noise restrictions.

"Noise is a major issue for residences holding 450 students and a library very close," said Dr Bruce Bowden, registrar at the U of T's Trinity College. "It's unrealistic to think that all ven-

tures will remain quiet during exams and convocations."

"Undoubtedly we need a stadium, but maybe not a 25 000-seater," said Students' Administrative Council President Rini Ghosh. "It would be a huge disruption to campus life and security, and we should not be making our students subject to this kind of disruption."

Many sources were already speculating on a contingency plan to build a smaller, less commercial stadium.

"I'm doubly sorry about the cancellation of the Varsity project," said Bruce Kidd, dean of the faculty of physical education and health. "We're deeply committed to getting another version of a new stadium underway as soon as possible."

### Correction!

In the Tuesday, 5 October issue of the Gateway, the caption of a photo by Jeffrey Greeniaus, taken at a Golden Bears hockey game, incorrectly identified the visiting team as the Grant MacEwan Griffins. In fact, the photo was from a game against the Calgary Dinos.

Apologies to Jeffrey for the error.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Women's Volleyball

The Pandas volleyball squad is in Saskatoon this weekend for the Huskie Tournament at the University of Saskatchewan. They'll play the St Mary's Huskies and Regina Cougars tomorrow, with quarter- and semi-finals Saturday and the final Sunday.

### Women's soccer

This is a light week in Canada West, with only five games between last night and next Wednesday. None of those games involve the Pandas, but three of them involve the hapless Regina Cougars as they try to earn their first win of the year. Last night the Cougars (0-9) fell 2-0 to the Saskatchewan Huskies (3-4); Regina has now been outscored 56-4 in their first nine games. They'll try to stop the bleeding this weekend when they host the Calgary Dinos (3-1-2) at noon on both Saturday and Sunday.

### Canada West

Pandas soccer midfielder Kami Wiebe was named the Canada West female athlete of the week for the week ending 3 October. Wiebe scored three goals last weekend against Regina and Saskatchewan. Meanwhile, Trinity Western midfielder Nick Perugini was named the male athlete of the week.

# Latitude 53

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## SOCIAL RECOURSE



**Alexisnfire**  
Red's  
Monday, 4 October

Alexisnfire played plenty of crowd-pleasing hits—including their latest, "Ambulance"—last Monday night at Red's.

MATT FREHNER  
Photo Volunteer

## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

**The Black Rider**  
The Roxy Theatre  
Opens Thursday, 7 October at 8pm

Don't spend all weekend trying to understand your textbooks; head to the Roxy Theatre for an evening of drama. Magic tricks, spells, and deals with the devil take centre stage in this spooky play by Tom Waits, Robert Wilson and William S. Burroughs, which comes just in time for Halloween season.

**Matthew Good**  
with Auf der Maur and Limblifter  
Red's  
Wednesday, 13 October at 7pm

Despite his band's recent break-up, Matthew Good hasn't lost any of his superstar quality.

The artist who brought you such hits as "Load Me Up" and "The Future is X-Rated" is back with a second solo album and is playing Red's next Wednesday night with opening acts Auf der Maur and Limblifter.

Although I've been Matt's biggest fan since *Underdogs*, you can rest assured that this preview isn't biased. His catchy, addictive tunes and good-natured showmanship light up the stage. That and he's oh so dreamy.

ASIA SZKUDLAREK  
Socialite

## Can't cover up his love of the alien

With a new Bowie tribute album out, Danny Michel hopes the world can come to love covers

### Danny Michel

with Luke Doucet and Deon Byron  
Sidetrack Café  
Thursday, 7 October at 8pm

### ROSS MOROZ

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Cover tunes are the bane of popular music. Whether it's Orgy's flaccid take on "Blue Monday" or the Atari's saccharine "Boys of Summer," releasing covers is—with very few exceptions—an indication that a band is without any artistic direction, and artists who release covers are (appropriately) looked down upon.

Bearing this in mind, releasing a whole album of covers—especially a whole album of covering only one artist—seems a bit lazy, especially for a respected, established singer-songwriter like Danny Michel.

But on his new album *Loving the Alien*: Danny Michel sings the songs of David Bowie. Michel hopes to break the stigma surrounding cover songs.

"I never thought covers were such a sin," admits Michel. "I grew up playing in cover bands, and I think it made me a better musician. Learning all those songs makes you a better musician because you see how great songs are written."

That said, Michel acknowledges that his label was less than receptive when he first came to them with the concept of an all-Bowie record.

"Everyone kind of scratched their heads and looked at me like I'd gone mad," confesses Michel. "I think no one thought I'd actually do it, and then I actually did it, and I just kept pestering them to put it out and eventually they did."

So far, *Loving the Alien* has received mostly positive reviews, including accolades from some fairly lofty corners: former Bowie backup singer Erinn Grynner is a fan, and Mike Garson, Bowie's pianist since 1973, has said that Michel's version of "Young Americans" is the best he's heard. The album features a mix of Bowie hits and obscurities such as "Ashes to Ashes," "Andy Warhol" and "Lady Stardust."



There was one Bowie hit, though, that Michel wrestled with including, but ultimately left off of the compilation.

"You know, you just can't do 'Life on Mars,'" Michel explains. "It's the best song he's ever recorded, and I would have been really arrogant to think I could improve on it."

As for his own songs, Michel plans to head back into the studio in December, but until then it's on with a relentless cross-country touring schedule, something that Michel considers the bread-and-butter of his life as a musician.

"I love the touring," he enthuses. "This is what I got into music for: to travel around and play for people."

Michel's enthusiasm is obvious to anyone who

has seen him play; he whistles around the stage, grinning and shaking and having a whole lot of fun. He's even been known to high-kick his drummer's cymbals, which likely irritates his percussionist just a tad.

"I have a bad back because of that," he laughs. "I don't know if it pisses him off, but I mean, really—how bad can it be for the equipment? It's just a shoe. He hits it with a freaking stick! Come on now."

Edmonton will experience Michel's music—and relentless martial arts attack to the trap set—this Thursday at the Sidetrack Café, where he'll play songs off of his critically acclaimed *Tales from the Invisible Man* and *Fibsible* albums. And, yeah, probably a couple of covers.

## Taxi remake makes for one dull ride

### Taxi

Directed by Tim Story  
Starring Jimmy Fallon and Queen Latifah  
Opens Friday, 8 October

DANIEL KASZOR  
Production Editor

Sometimes movie stars can make giant asses of themselves. Otherwise decent performers are thrown into movies with half-finished scripts while studios hope that their stars' talent for "daring" improv will add hilarity that isn't in the story. Take, for instance, Queen Latifah and Jimmy Fallon in *Taxi*.

*Taxi* is a remake of a 1998 French film of the same name which was produced and written by Fifth Element creator Luc Besson. The film was an enjoyable little popcorn flick that revelled in its own stupidity and had more than a few spectacular action sequences. The American remake on the other hand, takes itself too seriously and relies solely on humour that simply isn't there.

The story features Belle (Queen Latifah), a bike courier who has saved enough money to move up to the level of taxi-cab driver. Washburn (Jimmy Fallon) is a screw-up cop with his heart in the right place and an insurmountable fear of driving. After he gets his driver's license taken away, Washburn and Belle team up to take out a band of super-model bank robbers in Belle's tricked-out cab.

If this sounds dumb, it's because it is. The point of the plot is to segue into the daring



eye-candy of the driving sequences and the humorous interplay between the characters. Unfortunately, this "humorous interplay" is painfully absent. The jokes are too often based on something fundamentally unfunny—take the gag that Washburn's mother is a lush. Frequently, the character interaction will drag on, leaving an awkward and unsettling feeling instead of laughter.

One part in particular where Belle is teaching Washburn to drive by making him sing songs he loved as a child is particularly excruciating.

The action scenes far better, but are nothing exceptional. While the daring car chases through the tight streets of New York City are decently exciting, they aren't strong enough to hold up the rest of the film. If you simply want to look at exciting car crashes, you'd be better off renting

*The Matrix: Reloaded*, *Bad Boys 2*, or, if you're desperate, *The Fast and the Furious*—movies whose directors obviously spent more time and effort crafting their car chase centrepieces.

From tepid humour to average action, *Taxi* always feels like it's holding back—it's a censored version of itself. If you've seen the trailer, there's a scene where Queen Latifah says "Buckle up for safety, mother..." with the trailer cutting away, implying that her line's R-rated conclusion will be in the film. However, the film plays the scene just as it was in the commercial.

Not that *Taxi* could've been saved with four-letter words, but the result is a movie that feels like a castrated version of an enjoyable film. And when the original wasn't even a cinematic masterpiece itself, *Taxi*'s not a dull ride.

# Long live the afrobeat resistance

## Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra

with DJ Bob Trampoline  
New City Likwid Lounge  
Wednesday, 13 October at 8pm

COSANNA PRESTON  
Senior News Editor

With album titles like *Who is this America?* and songs called "Pay Back Africa" and "War is a Crime," Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra's political activism and heavy criticism of the United States is no secret. In fact, according to Martín Perna, the founder of Antibalas, there is no choice—the music dictates the message.

"When you're playing music there's a commitment to playing in the fullness of the music and the music is a political mission. Just like someone who likes gospel music—if you like gospel music then you've got to sing about Jesus. If you play afrobeat then you have to make it politically relevant," says Perna.

The orchestra's afrobeat tunes, which are steeped in socially conscious political messages, boast hypnotic rhythms and funky brass sounds. "On one hand, it's pacifist music, and on the other hand it's sort of militantly

pacifist. And being in the United States, which is such a violent country inside and outside, it was important to have in the whole theme of the band that statement of resistance against that violent status quo of the United States."

**"It's empowering for people to know that as musicians we're doing our jobs in a socially conscious way."**

MARTÍN PERNA,  
ANTIBALAS AFROBEAT ORCHESTRA

Inspired by the death of Fela Anikulagbo-Kuti, the creator of the afropunk style, in 1997, Perna felt he had to do something. He had worked with musicians on an afro-punk studio record, but no one was interested in pushing forward. It was time to take matters into his own hands.

"I thought, 'I'm not going to wait around another ten years until someone does something. I'm doing it now.' I guess it's just one of those things," he says.

"But it wasn't really a choice of

mine; it was something that kind of chose me. You know, you listen to your inner voice and you just follow it and let it go where it takes you."

Soon after, the group launched into the music scene in 1998 with seven members that quickly grew to a core of eleven based out of New York. The initial coordination was difficult. Perna recalls, as afrobeat is a style unlike any other. The dedication and chemistry required for a politically driven large ensemble takes more fine tuning than your average rock trio. But once the group was rolling, Perna says the rest of the members found their way and the band was set.

Now in their sixth year, Antibalas is embarking on its biggest adventure yet—a two-month tour across Canada and the United States, conveniently coinciding with the American election campaign.

Though Perna finds it pompous to think they'll have any major affect on the election, he hopes Antibalas can start even a small wave of people thinking socially.

"Every little bit counts, you know, and we might be doing something because it's empowering for people to know that as musicians we're doing our jobs in a socially conscious way."

## Don't judge a book by its Degrassi-esque cover

### Displaced Persons

By Margie Taylor  
NetWest Press

ASIA SZKIDLAREK  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

We've all heard the saying, "Don't judge a book by its cover," but most of us are still guilty of doing it. Take Margie Taylor's book, *Displaced Persons*; the cover of *Displaced Persons* looks like a billboard for Degrassi High. On the edge of a lake, starting out into space, sits a fuchsia-clad adolescent with a really bad haircut. Above her head, a sentence says "A savvy seductive tale of sex, drugs, and sudden death" in bold, non-sensory type. Hopefully, the cover's contrast between 1987 Sears catalogue imagery and torrid tagline reels people into reading the book, because past *Displaced Persons* cover is a great story written by a talented author.

*Displaced Persons* follows the story

of Alex, who two decades after her friend Tina's sudden death is plagued by the mystery surrounding her passing. Despite investigations into Tina's untimely death, many questions remain unanswered: was it suicide or was it murder?

Trying to take her mind off of her failing marriage, Alex returns to her hometown to sift through the memories of her friend's final days while searching for clues surrounding her less-than-orthodox life. Although initially Alex mainly keeps to herself, a rambunctious woman who shares Alex's curiosity about Tina. Together they embark on an emotional quest to uncover the distant past, revealing their personal secrets on the way.

Taylor's book, which is based on real events, is skillfully divided into two parts. While half the book reminisces on Tina and Alex's wild past as two teenagers on Lake Superior,

Ontario, the other half describes the older Alex's investigation.

The chapters seamlessly alternate between past and future, intertwining the experiences of Alex's life as a single free spirit and as a fatigued wife and mother.

But *Displaced Persons* is not a murder mystery. There's no overabundance of trivial details, and Taylor makes it a point not to be overly verbose when describing the mystery scenarios and situations. Despite the content of murder, betrayal, and wild promiscuous sex, the aforementioned blend together with the simplicity of the actual story, making for a light, almost relaxing read.

Sometimes it only takes one novel for a self-proclaimed cover-judge to make a turnaround and give plain-covered books a chance to prove their worth. If you're one of the guilty ones, it's time you picked up a copy of *Displaced Persons*.

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2004 GSJS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 7 October, 2004 at 6pm

Alumni Room, Students' Union Building

### Tentative agenda:

- Introductory remarks
- Approval of 2003-2004 GSJS Audit (Ellis, Govenlock LLP)
- Announcements
- Refreshments

All members (ie, those with three or more Gateway contributions in the 240 days prior to October 7th) are asked to attend. This meeting is also open to the public.

For more information, please contact the Chair of the Board of Directors at [gsjs@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:gsjs@gateway.ualberta.ca) or visit <http://www.gateway.ualberta.ca/gsjs/>

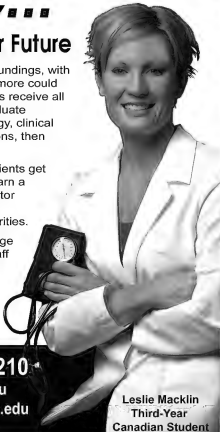
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Leslie Macklin  
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# Despite the CD title, William Shatner's no has-been

With a new TV show and album, Captain Kirk's headed toward his latest frontier: comeback town

DANIEL KASZOR  
Production Editor

Tuesday, William Shatner released his new album *Has Been* and believe it or not, it's an ironic name. Despite years of self-parody and *Star Trek* jokes, Shatner is poised for a surprising career upswing.

During the '60s and '70s when Shatner was in his prime, his style of over-the-top bravado was a hit. Best known for his work on *Star Trek*, the iconic swagger, stilted acting and arrogant machismo of his Captain Kirk shaped the public's perception of him.

During the '80s he got a role as "tough-as-nails cop" TJ Hooker, further cementing his persona into the public consciousness.

However, after his run as TJ ended and the '80s came to a close there was little work left for Shatner. The only performances that people were responding to involved him making fun of himself—roles mocking the well-known characters he played for so many years.

This went on long into the '90s. In *Free Enterprise* he played a lumbled version of himself, and he followed it up with a repeat of his old persona played for laughs in *Miss Congeniality*. It seemed like Shatner's career was in a downward spiral where the only work he could get was through making fun of himself, like a tired old jester forced to amuse his master.

However, something strange happened along the way to save Shatner from becoming a total has-been. The roles that he played became less and less self-deprecating, finally culmi-



nating in a guest role on *The Practice* which won him acclaim, an Emmy and a brand new spinoff: *Boston Legal*.

On the new show Shatner plays a hotshot head lawyer, the captain of his law firm if you will, who leads with stilted acting, bravado and arrogant machismo.

The strange thing is Shatner hasn't changed the character he plays; he's still the loud, over-the-top slab of unapologetic masculinity that was being lampooned a few years ago, only somehow in the meantime it became cool to be William Shatner again.

With a new CD, and a promising new show, the popular opinion that William Shatner's a has-been seems a bit out-dated. And Shatner seems well-aware he's due for a comeback. Like he sings on his new song, "has [been] [also means] might be again."



**William Shatner**

*Has Been*  
Shout Factor  
[www.shatnerhasbeen.com](http://www.shatnerhasbeen.com)

DANIEL KASZOR  
Production Editor

In 1968, William Shatner released an album called *Transformed Man* which—intentionally or not—was a hilarious send-up of his persona during his seminal run on *Star Trek*

playing Captain James Tiberius Kirk.

Now, 36 years later, Shatner has released a second album, *Has Been*, which shows 36 years more maturity. Gone is the egomania which made *Transformed Man* so hilarious, replaced with a sense of wit and much personal depth.

Shatner deftly adds humour regarding his own image while only flirting with the idea of self-parody while clean and clever production from Ben Folds and a cadre of established musicians (Almea Mann, Henry Rollins) elevates the album to the sort of enjoyable experience rare for a Shatner record.

Don't mistake *Has Been* for being a good album; it isn't.

It is, however, a solid listen and a thoroughly pleasing piece of auditory candy.



**Jens Lekman**

*When I Said I Wanted To Be Your Dog*  
Secretly Canadian Records  
[www.jenslekman.tk](http://www.jenslekman.tk)

MARK WOYTUK  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

When you think of Sweden, there are a handful of things that come to mind. You might happen to think of meatballs, of tall goofy blonde people, of Ikea and ABBA or maybe even of porn and bikini teams.

Now you can add musician Jens Lekman to this motley list of Swedish kitsch.

His latest album, *When I Said I Wanted To Be Your Dog*, is a Bert Bacharach-esque compilation of pop ballads. His vocal style is reminiscent of Steven Morrissey, as is his self-deprecating wit and stone-faced delivery of absurd, quirky lines that are fearlessly tacky.

With drab vocals that are backed up by diverse instrumentation ranging from a lonely piano tinkling in "If You Ever Need a Stranger" to the garish horns that blare out the frolicsome intro to "You Are the Light" to nothing at all in the a cappella "Do You Remember the Riots?" Lekman is a connoisseur of kitsch and a jovial but deadpan songwriter.

It's an interesting blend, so if you like pop and you can handle a touch of tawdriness, Jens Lekman is the Sweden for you.



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# Me hate Lee's She Hate Me

New Spike Lee film shockingly unintelligent, dull, and ignorant

## She Hate Me

Directed by Spike Lee  
Starring Anthony Mackie,  
Kerry Washington, Woody Harelson  
and John Turturro  
Metro Cinema  
78, and 10 October  
Check [www.metrocinema.org](http://www.metrocinema.org)  
for show times  
[www.shehateme.com](http://www.shehateme.com)

ANDREW ROSS  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

*She Hate Me* is likely Spike Lee's most surprising film. The surprise: Lee has become known for making films that deal with political and moral issues in an intelligent and engaging manner and *She Hate Me* is unintelligent, dull and approaches the issue of sexual orientation with profound ignorance.

The story follows Jack Armstrong (Anthony Mackie), a black 28-year-old VP, who is fired from his prestigious position with a drug company for exposing an ethical scandal concerning an AIDS vaccine and insider trading.

Wilted by the company as a whistleblower, Armstrong's finances are seized and he finds himself unemployed and without cash.

Enter Fatima (Kerry Washington), Armstrong's ex-girlfriend-turned-lesbian, with a business proposal: Impregnate her and her lover for \$10,000.

Soon, Armstrong finds himself impregnating rich lesbians for \$10,000 a piece. Throw into the mix a Mafia family and a bizarre historical footnote to Frank Willis, the security guard who exposed the Watergate scandal, and you've got one moronic movie.



The presentation of homosexual women in the film seems severely outdated. Lesbians are portrayed as latent heterosexuals who simply haven't found the right man (the film concludes with Armstrong slightly changing his ex-girlfriend's sexual identity, suggesting that what every lesbian really needs is a good man to make them complete).

The sex scenes could be taken out of a porn film and are entirely unnecessary and gratuitous. They do, however, offer some cheap excitement and distraction from the film's lack of substance.

Like the sex scenes, the movie's referencing of Frank Willis is unnecessary. Lee compares the real-life whistleblower to the fictional Jack Armstrong. Although the intent is to add an element of realism to the film, it only comes across as an afterthought—an attempt to create a political message in a film that is really unable to carry one. The preoccupation with the typical male fantasy of sleeping with lesbians prevents any message within

the film from being taken seriously. The movie's superficial preoccupation with Frank Willis comes off as a desperate attempt to justify the film.

Sex and politics aside, the movie is simply poor quality, and hackneyed dialogue such as, "I'm about to go Mike Tyson and postal on this bitch!" only makes it more unbearable.

The quality of acting ranges from good to poor. Anthony Mackie manages a decent job despite having a weak character and uneven dialogue but others, such as Woody Harelson and John Turturro, only manage terrible impersonations of an evil executive and a Mafia don, respectively.

*She Hate Me* is a mess of a film that can't decide whether it's a political drama, sleazy sex film, or comedy—the attempts at drama are contrived and fail to produce any real message and the comedic elements are at times genuinely funny but more often forced. It's a good thing the sex scenes are enjoyable to watch; if only we didn't have higher expectations from Lee than porn.

# FAB Gallery celebrates 50 years of the University's art history

## Fine Arts Building Gallery

Edmonton Excels: Half a Century of Painters at the University of Alberta's Department of Art and Design  
Featuring HG Glyde, JB Taylor, Norman Yates, David Cantine, Bob Sinclair, Jon Knowlton, Doug Haynes, Graham Peacock, Phil Darrah, Rick Chenier, John Freeman, and Allen Ball  
5-22 October  
Opening reception:  
Thursday, 7 October at 7pm

BEN MACOROWSKI  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Beginning a tour of the FAB Gallery's newest exhibition you'll be immediately struck with a sense of history and tradition.

The gallery's newest exhibition, Edmonton Excels: Half a Century of Painters at the University of Alberta's Department of Art and Design, showcases the work of full-time fine arts faculty members over the last half century. The display, which has its opening reception Thursday, 7 October at 7pm, is running in conjunction with the city of Edmonton's centennial celebrations.

"Every one of the featured artists contributed very distinctly to the visual culture of the Edmonton or Alberta area, not to mention the numerous students who must have been influenced by these people," says Dr Jette Sybesma, exposition curator and department of art and design chair.

"Every one of the featured artists contributed very distinctly to the visual culture of the Edmonton or Alberta area, not to mention the numerous students that must have been influenced by these people."

DR JETSKY SYBESMA,  
EDMONTON EXCELS CURATOR

Some of the artists featured are still members of the faculty—like Jon Freeman and Allen Ball who recently joined the staff, and Phil Darrah who is retiring this year. Others, such as HG Glyde, one of the founders of the University's fine arts department, have long since passed away. And yet others are particularly prominent individuals of the Edmonton art scene; featured artist Bob Sinclair won this year's Distinguished Artist in Edmonton award. Older samples of the artists' work will be contrasted with more current pieces.

Because of the impact the artists have had on the community, Sybesma believes Edmonton Excels is a particularly important exhibition. For students of art and design, Sybesma says that by viewing the collection, "they'll see what their professors are doing in a historical time frame but also the artistic challenges they engage in on their own terms."

But it's also important for the rest of the community to take in the exhibition, because it displays the importance of the visual arts in this city and

the University. Sybesma feels there are some misconceptions about the work created through his department, and the exhibition "puts to rest the myth that in the department of art and design all we do is abstract expressionist work."

"That's absolutely out of the question. Even in an historical context that is an urban myth which is certainly not supportive of the city. The diversity of the paintings and the artistic focus is very clear in this exhibition."

Edmonton Excels is a marvelous opportunity to familiarize people with the University's artistic history, and it's an opportunity Sybesma expects has never been available before.

"I think this is the first time all the painters who ever taught full-time faculty members in our department are being brought together in one show," says Sybesma.

"Over the past 50 years, numerous students must have been influenced by these specific artists and therefore their impact on the community at large is, I think, interesting if not significant."

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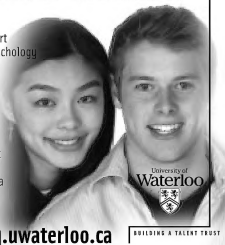
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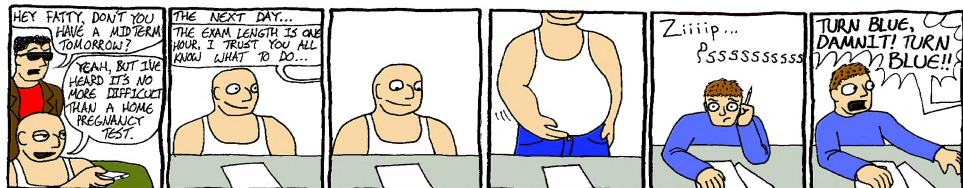
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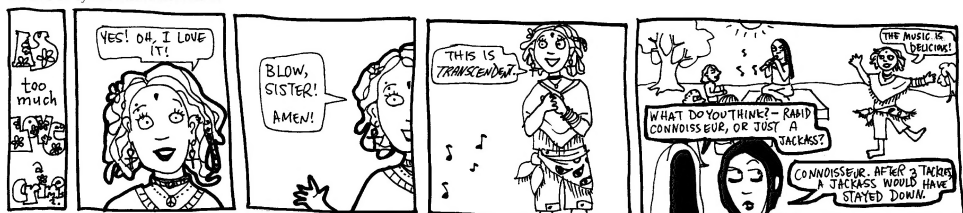
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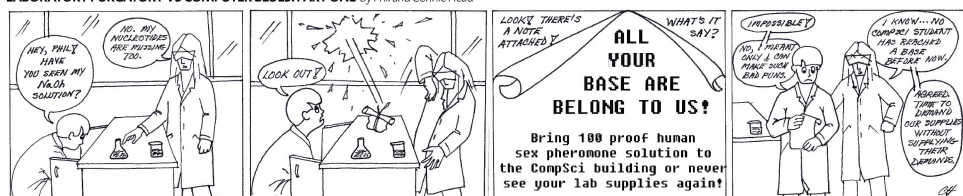
## PRIMATOLOGY by Tony Esteves and Steve Waldman



## BLACKOUT by Chris Krause and Jen Koskela



## LABORATORY PURGATORY VS COMPUTER BLUES: PART ONE by Phil and Connie Head



## LABORATORY PURGATORY VS COMPUTER BLUES: PART TWO by Kevin Ng



## POLAR &amp; BROOKLYN by Alex Labarda





## CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to [www.campusclassifieds.ca](http://www.campusclassifieds.ca)

## FOR RENT

Parking spots, 114 st and Univ Ave, \$40/mo call 989-0083

Spacious furnished 2 bedroom house. 8836 92st. 900 rent \$4000+util. For viewing call Chris 466-6149.

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GET PAID TO PARTY! E-mail [dkozak@ualberta.ca](mailto:dkozak@ualberta.ca) to find out how you party for free on Whyte Ave and make money!

Earn extra pocket money for minimal hours. SEE Magazine is looking for a University Of Alberta student familiar with campus to deliver SEE to campus locations for approximately 2 hours every Thursday. Must be reliable and willing to commit for a full school year or longer. Vehicle is an asset. Some heavy lifting required. Interested individuals please fax or E-mail resume to Kevin at [klaw@see-magwest.ca](mailto:klaw@see-magwest.ca), or fax (788) 432-1102.

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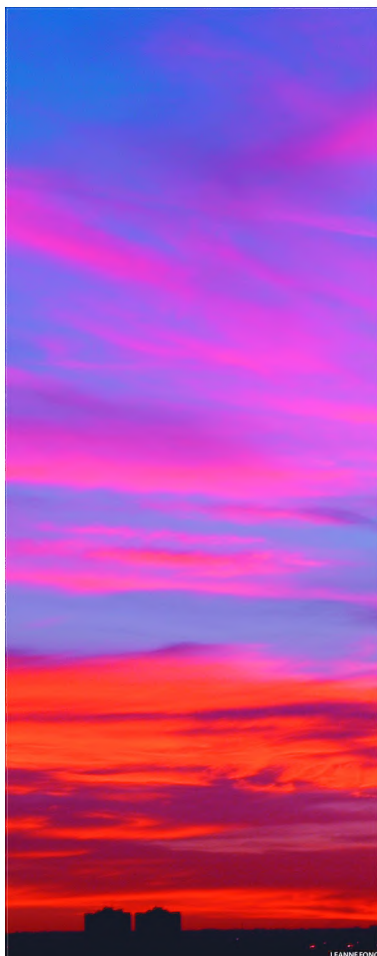
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